

# WOMEN IN TEXAS HISTORY



## 1976 CALENDAR

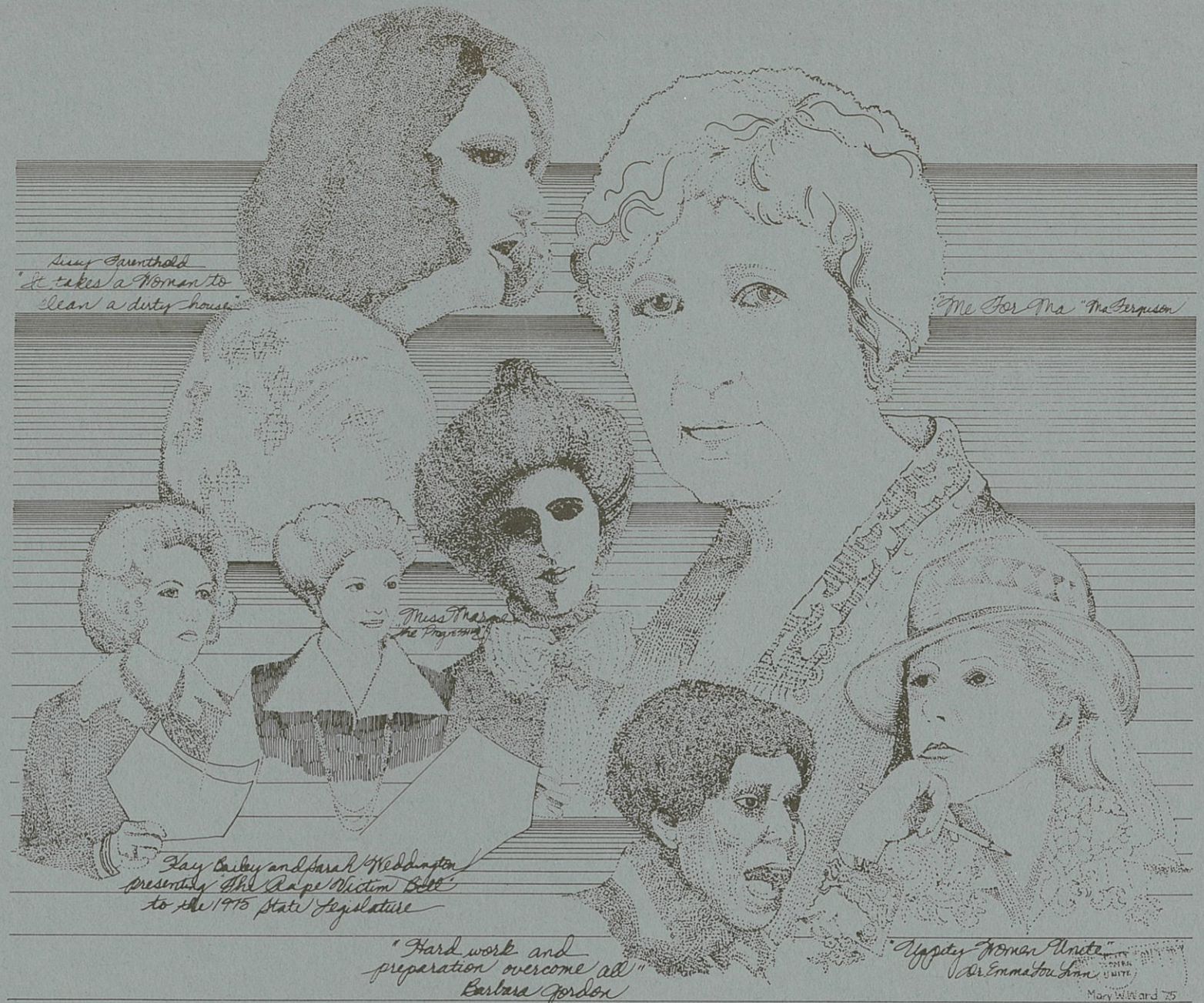
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## WOMEN IN TEXAS POLITICS

Until the rebirth of feminism in the sixties, women played a minor role in Texas electoral politics. Some women influenced politics by providing the money, land, or political connections necessary to begin a career in Texas politics, as Miriam Amanda Wallace (Ma Ferguson) did for Jim Ferguson. Others, through shrewd manipulation, had a more direct voice in politics. Jane McManus Cazneau, born in Troy, New York, in 1813, speculated in Texas land in 1832 with her brother, father, and Aaron Burr, her former lover. Becoming an ardent supporter of the policies of manifest destiny, she believed Texas would become a great empire. As a journalist, she wrote a notable account of the first days of the Texas Republic for the 1849 *Democratic Review*, and served as a correspondent and political observer to various Eastern newspapers while living in Texas and later in Washington, D.C. Jane McManus became the first white woman to see Eagle Pass, when she married its founder, William L. Cazneau, an influential Texas politician. Through her political connections, William Cazneau was later appointed special agent to the Dominican Republic in 1853 and 1859.

Aaron Burr described Jane McManus as a woman who possessed "courage, stability and perseverance." These same traits also characterized the twentieth-century women who campaigned for public office at all levels. Annie Webb Blanton was sworn in as the first woman to hold a state elective office on January 1, 1919, as State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Ms. Blanton was reelected on the basis of the reform policies she instituted: higher teachers' salaries, higher standards for teacher certification, and higher appropriations for education. Edith Wilmans, lawyer and rancher, was elected to the State Legislature in 1923 for one term, but failed twice to win the governor's seat, failed twice again for the Jackson County Congressional spot, and three more times for the State Legislature. Margie Neal of Panola County, known statewide as "Miss Margie," was not only the first woman State Senator (1927-1935) but was also the first woman to serve on the State Democratic Executive Committee. During her political career in Texas, she ardently supported prohibition and suffrage. Later, Roosevelt appointed her to his New Deal administration, first as chief of the women's section of the consumer's division of the N.R.A., and then as a consultant to the Social Security Board. Her career typified that of the liberal politician motivated by a sense of moral values. At Margie Neal Appreciation Day in Carthage on June 16, 1952, she was honored in speeches made by Lyndon Johnson, Allan Shivers, Price Daniel, and Oveta Culp Hobby, four very important Texas politicians. Miss Margie never married, and she died at the age of ninety-six.



Today women in Texas are taking a new interest in state and national politics. Some have achieved national prominence in only a few years, notably Sissy Farenthold and Barbara Jordan. Farenthold, child of a Corpus Christi lawyer and politician, graduated from Vassar College in 1945 and from U.T. Law School in 1949. Through her work as director of Legal Aid in Nueces County, 1965-67, she became aware of the injustices suffered by the poor and began advocating political reform. Following two terms in the State Legislature in which she led the "Dirty Thirty" reformers, she ran unsuccessfully for governor twice, and made an unsuccessful bid for the vice-presidency as candidate of the National Women's

Political Caucus. Barbara Jordan, the child of a Houston Baptist minister, graduated from Texas Southern University, and from Boston University Law School in 1959. She opened a law office in 1960, then ran unsuccessfully for the State Legislature twice. After her election to the State Senate in 1966, she was the only woman in the entire legislature, and the only Black in the Senate. In the 1972 Congressional race she won 88% of the vote in her district. Thanks to Watergate, television, and her own excellent abilities as a speaker and jurist, she has gained political clout and helped immeasurably to change the image of the Texas woman in politics.

# JANUARY 1976

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<p>Selma Wells, appointed to Texas Parole Board, 1975, operated half-way houses in Houston for many years. ← (Photo by Alan Pogue.)</p>			<p><b>1</b> New Year's Day</p> <p>Annie Webb Blanton was sworn in as State Superintendent of Public Instruction in 1919, the first woman to hold an elective state office in Texas.</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>
<p><b>4</b></p> <p>Mary Taylor Bunton, who, in 1886, became one of the first women to travel on the Chisholm Trail, died on this day in 1952.</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>The fourth child, a daughter Bertha, was born on this day in 1889 to Francis Bently King, a black woman who lived near Albany, Texas.</p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>
<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>January 14 &amp; 20, 1976, home basketball games for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women, University of Texas at Austin.</p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>Helen Marr Kirby, first "lady assistant" in charge of female students at the University of Texas, was born on this day, 1837. She served in this office 1884-1919.</p>
<p><b>18</b></p> 	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Virginia Musquiz, Raza Unida Party Chairwoman for Zavala County, voted Chicana del Año, 1973. (Photo courtesy Chicana Research and Learning Center.) ←</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>Inauguration Day in 1925, when Miriam Amanda Ferguson became the first woman governor of Texas.</p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>On this day, 1834, in the absence of "legal means of marriage" in most of Texas, Jane Gossett agreed to marry John Thompson, under penalty of \$2000 fine if either refused.</p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>"We do not have a single liberal paper in Texas. It is not possible for democracy to survive when the people cannot get information." —Minnie F. Cunningham, 1945.</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>The sixth child of Francis Bently King was born on this day in 1893, a son whom they named Elmer.</p>
<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>Elisabet Ney born, 1833, in Germany. She went on a hunger strike at 18 until allowed to study sculpture, &amp; came to Texas in 1872 with her husband whose name she brazenly never took.</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>During this month, 1905, two men, Mr. R.I.E. Dunn &amp; Mr. Ward H. Mills, began <i>The American Woman's Home Journal</i> in Dallas. Indeed!</p>

### On the Civil War:

"Do the Yankees really intend to invade Texas with 15000 men? Two years ago I do believe it would have scared the women: but now, it does not appear to disturb their equanimity very much. Still, Oh still, even so, it will cost us precious blood and priceless lives—May God Almighty fight with us and grant us still to conquer and yet to save our gallant soldiers alive."

—Letter from Mary A. Maverick to her son Lewis, September 27, 1863, Mary A. Maverick Biographical File, Barker Texas History Center Library, University of Texas at Austin.

I feel like a greedy dung beetle,  
who, spying a wondrous big turd,  
refuses to remove himself from under its weight,  
even after it has proven too big to move.

He merely maintains his stance  
there,  
shoulder to the shit,  
arms and legs flailing about under him,  
awaiting the approach of the fly.

—Susan Lucas, poet, *Poems* (Austin: private printing 1975).

### On the Old South:

"Though we had no money and no prospects of any, and were land-poor in the most typical way, we never really faced this fact as long as our grandmother lived because she would not hear of such a thing. We had been a good old family of solid wealth and property in Kentucky, Louisiana and Virginia, and we remained that in Texas, even though due to a temporary decline for the most honorable reasons, appearances were entirely to the contrary. This accounted for our fragmentary, but strangely useless and ornamental education, appropriate to our history and our station in life, neither of which could be in the least altered by the accident of straitened circumstances."

—Katherine Anne Porter, novelist, "Portrait: Old South," *The Collected Essays and Occasional Writings of Katherine Anne Porter* (New York: Delacorte Press, 1970).

### FROM THE PULLMAN

All day I have sat gazing out of the window,  
Blessing my eyes with the silver of the little bare trees.  
But now, in the dark,  
I am haunted by the faces of women in lonely shanties—  
Here an old one, there a young one, but always a woman  
In the half-opened door,  
Watching the world go by.

—Karl Wilson Baker, poet, *Blue Smoke* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1919).

## Historians, Writers and Preservationists

### On the Austin community of 1857:

"Taking all things together, the life lived by the women of Austin at that date was a joyous, genial existence. All had plenty of servants, and they could not then give notice, nor yet pack their little parcel and go without notice, so then houses once comfortably ordered, remained so for lengthy periods. Their chief employment appeared to be an endless tucking of fine muslin, and inserting lace in the same. . . . Some of the women chewed snuff without cessation, and such wo-

men neither "tucked," nor "inserted." They simply rocked to-and-fro, and put in a word occasionally. It must be remembered that the majority of women who "dipped" had likely formed the habit when it was their only physical tranquilizer, through days and nights of terror, and pain, and watchfulness; and that the habit once formed is difficult to break, even if they desired to break it, which was not a common attitude."

—Amelia Barr, author, *All the Days of My Life: An Autobiography* (New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1913).

### On the importance of preserving the past:

"The greatest heritage of the children of Texas and America is the noble example of its . . . heroes. Let us not forget their deathless deeds, for the moment we begin to ignore the sublime virtues exemplified by the noble souls of our race, our degeneration has begun.


"Let us save our landmarks and . . . buildings as reminders and monuments. No monument that could be erected by the hands of man to the memory of the heroes could be as great or as sacred as the Alamo itself, wherein we are brought face to face with the history and scenes from the lives of the men who made the Alamo immortal."

—Adina de Zavala, historian, *The Alamo: Where the Last Man Died* (San Antonio: The Naylor Company, 1956).



—Photograph, *House of the Seasons*, Martha Hartzog, 1974.

# FEBRUARY 1976

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Sra. María Josefa Becerra Seguín of San Antonio sent a letter to her husband, Erasmo, on this day, 1824, describing steps she had taken to secure her water rights from the city.	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> This day, 1974, 8 Raza Unida Party candidates filed for office in Crystal City, for the November general election. Of the 8, 6 were Chicanas.	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> A seventh child, a son John Hays, was born this Wednesday, 1850, at 10 pm, to Mrs. Mary A. Maverick of San Antonio.	<b>7</b> Alma Canales, first Chicana to run for statewide office in Texas, filed for Lt. Governor's office under Raza Unida Party, this day, 1972.
<b>8</b> February 9, 1973, 60 Chicanas from 7 states formed the Chicana Caucus at the National Women's Political Caucus Convention, passing resolutions concerning la Chicana en strike, en ed-	<b>9</b> ucation, en welfare y en la política, and one stating that the Chicana Political Caucus would be equal to the other State Caucuses in the convention.	<b>10</b> Adina de Zavala, "Savior of the Alamo," began a 3-day occupation of that historic building on this day in 1908, barricading herself in without food or water, to prevent a local hotel syndi-	<b>11</b> cate from destroying the old mission in order to build upon the site. The confrontation also dramatized the dispute between her local chapter of the Daughters of the Republic	<b>12</b> of Texas and the state organization over custody of the Alamo. The state group eventually won and de Zavala's faction left the DRT.	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> In 1907 the Legislature appropriated \$65,000 for restoring the Alamo, in response to the efforts of these persons: Miss Clara Driscoll (Sevier), Miss Adina de Zavala, Mrs. Anson	<b>16</b> Jones, Mrs. Mary B. Howitz, Mrs. J.B. McKeever, Mrs. Cornelia Branch Stone, Mrs. Charles Milby, Mrs. Walter Gresham, Mrs. James B. Dibrell, Mrs. Cone Johnson, Mrs. A.B. Looscan.	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> February 3, 10, & 18, 1976, home basketball games for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women, University of Texas at Austin.	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> February 10, 1899, Andrea Castañon Candelaria died, age 113. She ran a hotel in San Antonio from 1810, and claimed to have been in the Alamo when it fell, attending the ill Jim Bowie.	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Frances Reese Pugh of Hearne, who had been editor-in-chief of <i>The Gulf Messenger</i> , became "special correspondent and editor of the Women's Club Department," when that pub-	<b>25</b> lication merged with <i>The Texas Magazine</i> in 1898. Frances Reese Pugh was also the first woman Chamber of Commerce secretary in the U.S.	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> On this day, 1863, "Negro woman Margaret and child Jennie," guaranteed "sound and healthy and slaves for life," were sold by Enos Cooper for \$2000 to Seamon Eidman, in San Felipe.
<b>29</b> Three generations of pioneer women. (Photo courtesy Texas State Archives.)			<p>Possibly the first woman to appear on the cover of <i>Time Magazine</i> was Oveta Culp Hobby, who graced the January 17, 1944, cover. Hobby was the first Colonel and director of the Women's Army Corps. She commanded 63,000 WACS. She later served as the first Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, 1952-55.</p> <hr/> <p>The greatest number of women employed in manufacturing in 1936 worked in the textile industry.</p> <p>In 1936, three-quarters of the women who worked in factories worked less than 45 hours per week.</p> <p>Nut (pecan) sorters in Texas in 1936 received less than 14 cents per hour, and nut pickers received 5 cents per hour, while in Saint Louis, nut sorters and pickers received 23 cents per hour.</p>			

As you read through Texas history books, you don't find much about women. Women don't surface in Texas history very often unless they sewed the first state flag, or were christened the "Mother of Texas" because they gave birth to the first white child, or married this governor or that cattle baron. The women were there all right, red, brown, black, and white women, but most of them remain largely invisible to history because they were doing things that (white, male) historians don't think important, things like cooking the food, sewing the clothes, and birthing the babies.

With a little digging you can find out that the earliest Texan whose remains have been found was a Plains Indian woman who died near present Midland, Texas, about 10,000 years ago. She has been nicknamed "Midland Minnie." You can also learn that a few millenia later, when Spain began a campaign to extend its

cannon shot, to preserve Austin as the capital. From the 1850's on, Isabella Clark engineered the building of Clarksville on the Red River, selling town lots and using the proceeds to build the courthouse. Adele Hart Brown herded cattle every day on a Panhandle ranch and raised two infants besides, clutching the first in the saddle until he was big enough to hold on behind; she carried the second the same way, with the older one tied to the front porch with a rope so he wouldn't fall into the well. Sally Scull operated a mobile trading post between Mexico and the Confederacy, stocking only two commodities: cotton and guns. One early morning in 1866, Martha McWhirter had a vision which provided the answer to continual childbirth, high infant mortality, and deadly childhood disease: sexual abstinence. She became the spiritual fount of the most successful women's religious commune in the U.S. In 1907 Mollie Bailey carted her circus, grown from a two-wagon road side-show in 1876 to a prairie python 31 gilt-gaudy coaches long over 4,000 miles of Texas backroads.

It's exciting to uncover these women. But again, they fill in only a small part of the whole picture, because they were not only from the dominant race, but also, for the most part, from the dominant class. Their families owned plantations or farms or ranches or businesses. Compared to the vast majority of women, they had been well educated. Many of them owned slaves or hired servants, who had to struggle for their existences most of their lives. Had these women been as poor as their domestics, they would now probably be equally as anonymous.



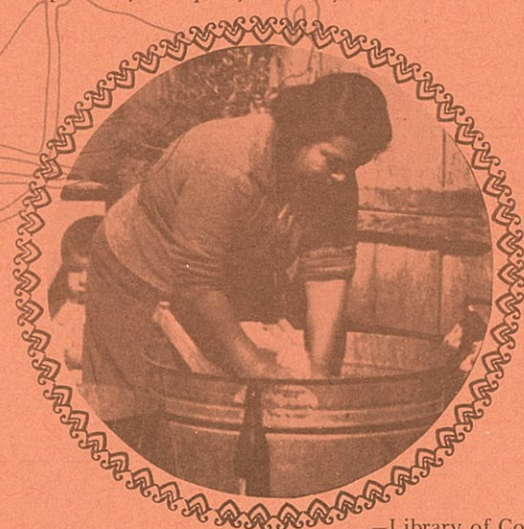
—Institute of Texan Cultures,  
University of Texas, San Antonio



—Texas State Archives



—Texas State Archives



—Library of Congress

control north of the Río Bravo, Mexicanas joined three separate attempts to settle East Texas: the Ramón expedition of 1716, the Aguayo of 1720, and the Y'Barbo of 1779. The 1779 census of San Antonio recorded at least 42 black and mulatto women as "free citizens of color."

But the records of early red, brown, or black women in Texas are few indeed. Because the dominant whites who settled Texas controlled the culture and the writing of history as well as the land and the economy of the area, most of the records of minority people, especially women, have been lost. To get some idea of what many women in Texas were doing in the past, we must look to the records about white women.

Actually women in Texas did a lot of things besides cooking, sewing, and having babies. Late one night in 1842, Angelina Eberly spied Sam Houston's soldiers sneak-footin' into Austin to make off with the state documents and flushed them out with

So, as you uncover pioneer women in Texas driving wagons full of cotton bales across the Rio Grande; running everything from saloons to schoolhouses in mud-gutted, thrown-up, trail-beatin' towns; or riding herd with sage brush on one horizon and a blue norther on the other, remember the women you can't see:

the milk churners, the cotton pickers,  
the missy's baby nursers,  
the dishwashers with hands puffy red,  
the spinning-wheelers with children unfed,  
the silk dressmakers, the bread dough bakers,  
the when-they-make-love-fakers,  
the snuff chewers, the luck losers . . .  
all those history-doers history didn't see,

for they were all Pioneer Women of Texas, too.

## PIONEER WOMEN OF TEXAS

# MARCH 1976

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>On this day, 1955, Adina de Zavala, historian, folklorist, and preservationist, died. She was noted for efforts to preserve the Alamo, San Antonio missions, and battle sites and heroes' graves.</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Sarah F. Bradley made the first Texas flag from red, white, and blue squares of calico. It flew over Washington-on-the-Brazos March 2, 1836, Independence Day.</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p>On March 2, 1897, Adele Looscan Briscoe became a charter member of the Texas State Historical Association.</p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>At least 10 Mexican women survived the siege of the Alamo, which ended this day, 1836. 3 of them were Juana Navarro de Alsbury, Gertrudis Navarro, and Anna Salazar de Esparza.</p>
<p><b>7</b> Flood refugees, Memphis, Texas by Dorothea Lange, 1937.</p>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>International Women's Day!</p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>First issue of <i>The Southerner</i>, edited by Louella Styles Vincent of Strawn, "the dream and effort of one woman . . . to establish a medium for Southern literature," March, 1908.</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>March 11-13, 1976, University of Texas Women's Intercollegiate Invitational Basketball Tournament, Austin.</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>
<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>On this day, 1851, Mrs. Mary A. Maverick of San Antonio, mother of 7 children, 3 deceased, celebrated her 33rd birthday.</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>Matilda Lockhart was taken by Comanches to San Antonio this day, 1840, to be exchanged in a meeting with whites. The whites violated the meeting, resulting in the Council House Fight.</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>On March 19, 1899, a ninth child, daughter Carrie, was born to Francis Bently King, a Black woman who lived near Albany, Texas.</p>
<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p>Mrs. Mary A. Maverick gave birth to her second child, a son Lewis Antonio on this Sunday, March 23, 1839, in San Antonio.</p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>Tenth child of Mrs. Mary A. Maverick, daughter Elizabeth, died in San Antonio on March 28, 1859.</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>March 26, 1918, Gov. William Hobby signed the bill giving Texas women the vote at primary elections and in nominating conventions. 300,000 women registered to vote in the next gubernatorial primary, helping defeat Hobby's opponent, Jim Ferguson.</p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p>On this Palm Sunday, 1836, Panchita Alvarez, "the Angel of Goliad," wife of one of Urrea's officers, saved some of Fannin's men from being massacred after the Battle of Coletto Creek.</p>
<p><b>28</b></p> <p>On this day, 1914, Anna Howard Shaw of NAWSA spoke in San Antonio, winning many converts to the cause of suffrage.</p>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>On this day, 1831, Amelia Barr, author and observer of early 19th century Texas society, was born.</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>On this Thursday, 1843, Mrs. Mary A. Maverick gave birth to her fourth child, a daughter Augusta.</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>Texas became the 8th state to ratify the ERA on this day, 1972.</p>	 <p>MRS. EBERLEY FIRING OFF CANNON.</p>		

## JANIS JOPLIN

She belted down slugs of Southern Comfort from a bottle, dressed like a hooker and bedecked herself with feathers. She bragged about her love conquests and brawls. She was alternately coarse and sweet, belligerent and shy, a woman and a child.

The trademarks of Janis Joplin are familiar five years after her death from an accidental overdose of heroin.

Joplin, born and raised in Port Arthur, Texas, never really left her roots behind her. Unable to cope with the expectations of a small town in the 1950's, Janis rebelled and was wild and independent, and throughout her career, she referred to "acceptability" on Port Arthur terms.

After spending time in and out of college, living briefly on both coasts, and singing in Austin and eastern Texas clubs, Janis wound up in San Francisco with the band, Big Brother and the Holding Company. It was the height of the hippie revolution and the migration to Haight-Ashbury, and the band gained a local reputation. It was June, 1967. The Monterey Pop Festival, one of the first of many gatherings to celebrate music, feeling good, and life, featured Joplin and Big Brother as only one of many "name" acts.

Her style has been analyzed, described, and imitated; but it is enough to say that when Joplin sang the blues, she made her audience "feel." The sexuality she emoted was just part of the emotional freedom and uninhibitedness her singing represented. To the generation she sang to, her message expressed the core of their beliefs.

As Joplin and the band toured, Janis' self-indulgent and flamboyant lifestyle caught media attention, and she became the '60's female rock superstar. The aura of self-destruction that surrounded Joplin—the hard drinking—the fast pace—the punishment she heaped on her vocal chords—formed the cornerstone of the myth that became Joplin.

But as Janis (or Pearl, as she came to call herself), the honky-tonk queen of rock, slowly crowded out the private Janis, her already precarious emotional state stretched wire thin. Her moods, her constant need for reassurance, her fear of being ugly and unloved, her fears about dying early and her future, and the constant feelings of loneliness began pounding at her with increased ferocity. It was only after Joplin became famous that she turned to heroin; she had licked it once and had only recently started on the needle again when she died.

Before her death, Janis was working on *Pearl*, the album that she knew would be her best, and she was planning to get married. A product and victim of the times, Joplin was

"All caught up in a landslide,  
bad luck pressing in from all sides,  
Got bucked off of my easy ride,  
buried alive in the blues."\*

\*From "Buried Alive in the Blues," by Nick Gravenites, a song Joplin never finished for her *Pearl* album.

## Super Stars ... A Century Apart

"... I don't believe in women being married. Somehow they all sink into nonentities after this epoch in their existence. That is the fault of the female education. They are taught from their cradles to look upon marriage as the one event of their lives. That accomplished, nothing remains."

"But for all these (my) blind instincts for art, I am still a vagabond, of no use to anyone in the world—and never shall be."

"Look at me, man. I'm selling my heart."

"When you get onstage, that's the only time you've got for being wonderful—the minute you're on till the minute you're off."

"Success gets in your way. You have something that's bigger and more important than just being with people. I can't just hang out any more on the street. Now, whenever I see people—except my own friends—there's an artificial atmosphere, people talking to you for the wrong reasons. There's so much unspoken crap in the air that you're really alone."

JANIS JOPLIN

## ADAH ISAACS MENKEN

ADAH ISAACS MENKEN

She smoked cigarettes one after another, counted two affairs with famous writers, four marriages, and numerous lovers, dressed like a "harlot," wore her hair like a man, and spit and swore publicly.

Adah Isaacs Menken was the most talked about and colorful woman of the 1860's. She created scandal and controversy wherever she went.

Menken, who was born in New Orleans in 1835 and spent some time in east Texas in her late teens, lived during the era of Victorian morality, when sex was both repressed and emphasized, when tension in the United States reached a peak during the Civil War, and when women were just beginning to emerge from their narrow sphere as upholders of domestic virtue and piety.

Menken, rebellious, independent, intelligent, and in love with poetry, turned to the theater in her late teens. After two marriages and very limited success as an actress, she became famous in New York when she opened in a two-bit melodrama called "Mazeppa." Menken played male and female leads, but it was the climax that stopped the show—Adah was strapped to a horse's back and carried across the stage, and she did it in a flesh-colored body stocking.

Opening night rocked the city. "The Menken" was instantly loved and hated, ridiculed and hailed. Everyone agreed she couldn't act, but her beauty and body made her the first American sex symbol.

Menken and "Mazeppa" travelled to San Francisco, London, and Paris, and she became the highest paid actress of all time.

Menken enjoyed her fame and crossed the boundary from sex symbol to "superstar" when her flamboyant and self-indulgent lifestyle became as famous as her generation of sex appeal on stage. She threw lavish parties for the bohemian crowd in which she mingled. She used up her entire earned fortune to maintain her lifestyle, to publish her poetry, and to help out struggling writer friends.

She believed in living for the pleasure of the moment and got involved in public scandals concerning her affairs with Swinburne the poet and Alexander Dumas *père*. Myths surrounded Menken, and she fed and cultivated them, happiest when she held the public spotlight.

Although Adah was the intellectual equal and friend of Charles Dickens, Walt Whitman, and George Sand, she had the emotional maturity of an adolescent girl. Unable to gain success in any play that did not feature "The Menken" in a risqué outfit, she became increasingly moody and depressed. She feared obscurity and an early death. She felt lonely and hated to be alone.

In the spring of 1868, Menken's popularity was declining, but she was working on a "comeback" play in Paris which everyone believed would be a success, and she was making final preparations for publication of her poems. It was at a play rehearsal that Menken became ill. Physicians were unable to make a diagnosis. Menken did not recover and died a few months later at age 33.



# APRIL 1976

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>In 1936 nutpickers received about \$2 per week; factory workers, about \$7 per week; laundry workers, about \$8 per week; cotton textile workers, about \$10 per week; milliners, about \$13 per week; saleswomen, about \$13.50 per week; and clerical workers in factories, about \$16.50 per week.</p>		<p>Wilhelmina Delco, state representative from Travis County. (Photo by Bill Reynolds.)</p>		<p><b>1</b> Eliza McCoy born, 1813. She was a missionary to the Putawatomic Indians at the age of 31, and gave away \$135,000 money &amp; property to church funds in her lifetime.</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b> First issue of <i>Our Mascot: The Texas Magazine</i>, "a great effort to establish a Texas magazine important in the literary world," edited &amp; published by Jennie B. Mott, San Antonio, 1906.</p>
<p><b>4</b> Palm Sunday, 1971, mother of Alonso Loreda Flores, victim of the Pharr "riot," was joined by Chicanas all over Texas, in a Marcha de Mujeres to protest police brutality &amp; her son's death.</p>	<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b> This day, 1830, Mexican government offered to pay expenses for any qualified Mexican citizens to colonize Texas. 3 women whose husbands were in prison were the first to apply.</p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>9</b> This month, 1842, Texas planter William Joel Bryan paid \$1000 to one Hopkins for "negress Ann &amp; child."</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>
<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b> Francis Bently King gave birth to her tenth child, a son Ollie, this day 1903, in Albany, Texas.</p>	<p><b>13</b> On this day, 1938, Pecan Shellers' Strike was settled by arbiters, "leaning in favor of" the strikers, after 2½ months.</p>	<p><b>14</b></p>	<p><b>15</b> April 15, 1882, death in Houston of Maud Young, author of 1st Texas botany textbook, <i>Familiar Lessons in Botany</i>. "Her mind was brilliant, her memory phenomenal. . . ."</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>
<p><b>18</b> <b>Easter</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b> Emily (or Emma), black slave of Colonel Morgan at Groce's Plantation, detained Santa Anna in his silken tent during the battle of San Jacinto, this day, 1836.</p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b> April 24, 1919, Annie Webb Blanton wrote Minnie Fisher Cunningham about calling a special session of the Texas Legislature to vote for Women's Suffrage.</p>	<p><b>24</b> Augusta, age 6, only remaining daughter of Mrs. Mary A. Maverick, died of cholera, this day, 1849, during an epidemic in San Antonio.</p>
<p><b>25</b> This Easter Monday, 1841, Mrs. Mary A. Maverick gave birth to her third child, first daughter, Agatha, in San Antonio.</p>	<p><b>26</b> On this day, 1836, Mrs. Dilue Harris camped, as a child of 11 with her family, on the San Jacinto Battlefield 5 days after the defeat of the Mexican army.</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	

# GROWING UP BLACK IN TEXAS

Mamma was my grandmother and this is as much her story as it is mine. She may have been an unlettered country woman, but there was a power and poetry in her life that touched us all in the little community of Sand Hill, in Caldwell County.

Our family included Mamma and her husband, whom we called Papa, my mother and father, my brother and me and my four sisters. But Mamma didn't just belong to us, she belonged to the whole settlement. She was a midwife, had been for "40 odd years" and had forgotten how many babies she had delivered. Over the years Mamma had wet-nursed scores of white children. Even after they were grown many of them still came to see her, usually on Sundays. During winter visits they would sit in the kitchen near the stove and talk to her as she puttered about. In the summers, you would find Mamma sitting with them on the back kitchen steps, deep in conversation. They called her "Aunt Sarah" and she was as full of love and "old sayings" for them as she was for us. "They are my white children," she would say as she watched them leave, and none of us ever questioned that. Somehow she had a way of getting along in both worlds without compromising herself and her rather awesome individuality.

Many examples come to mind, but one in particular had a profound effect on me. Saturday was our day to go into town, into Luling, and the high point for us kids was buying an ice cream cone at the drugstore. We were not, however, allowed to eat it on the stools. We had to go outside on the sidewalk. At first I never really minded. But when I was about 9 or 10, I began wondering about that. One Saturday it bugged me, so I made my way to Mamma, who was talking with a friend she had met on the sidewalk. You didn't interfere with grownups when they were talking, so I hung at her side in misery. But not for long. Mamma knew when the need was on me. She stopped talking, grabbed my hand and asked, "What's gittin' yo goat?"

"I want to ask the drugstore man if I can sit on one of the stools to eat my ice cream," I declared.

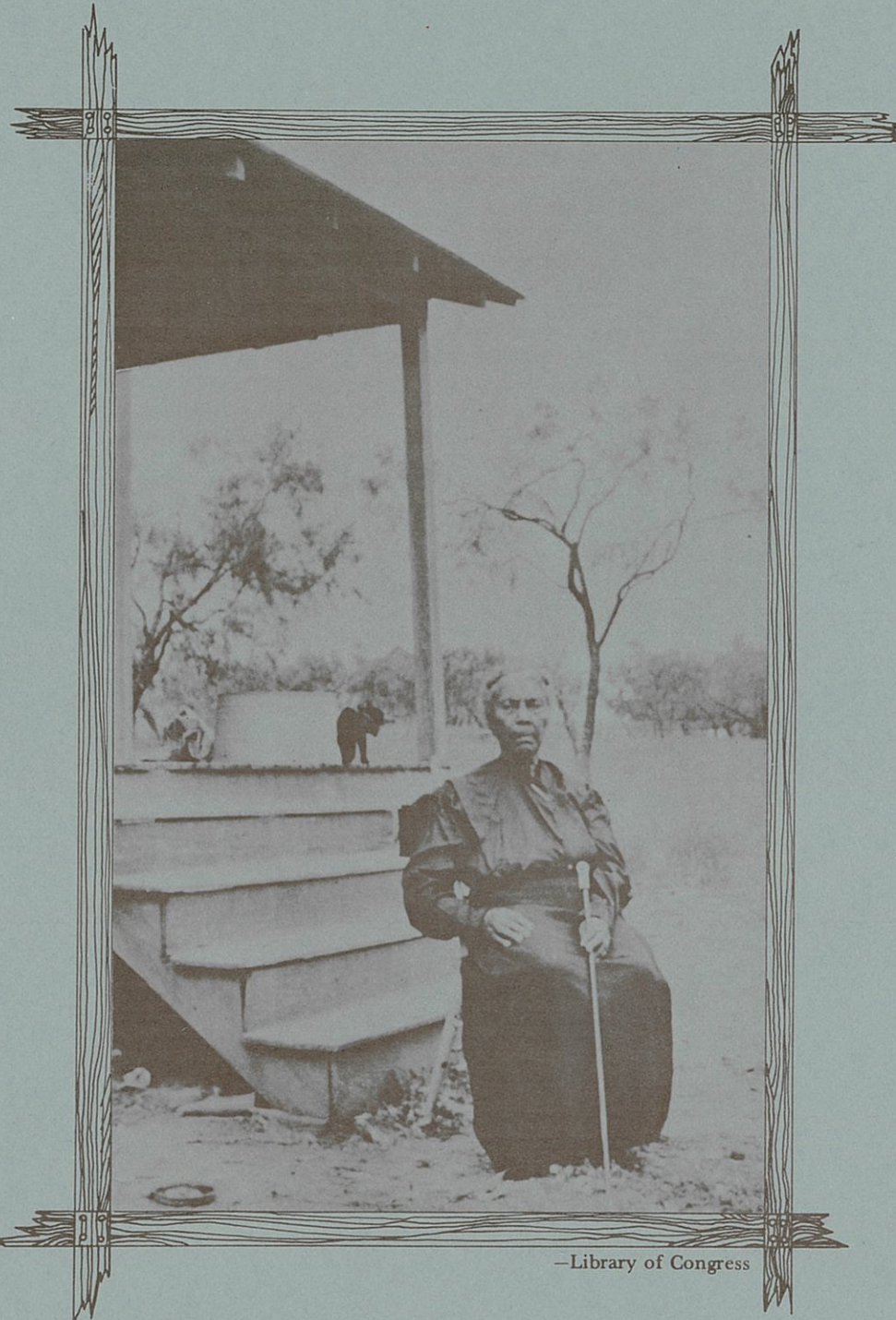
Mamma looked at me. I was aware that she was holding my hand in a different way.

"Come on," she said, "I'm gonna go with you to get yo cone."

We walked into the drugstore, she ordered my cone, paid for it with a nickel from her purse instead of mine (that was something!), whirled me around and out we went.

We didn't talk about it for the rest of the day. But later, when we were out in the woods gathering kindling, just to ourselves, Mamma brought up the subject again. She had a saying for about everything. It was as one neighbor observed, "a way of getting the message across with no pain." Well, Mamma began to tell me about "differences," about my own unique creation and how "They ain't but one of you. Anything what there's only one of is purty special." She compared my uniqueness to one of the pieces in a puzzle we had at home. "Don't you see," she said, "ain't nary piece 'cept the one made for that place can fit there. That's like you, got to do it so as to make up the whole picture."

I got the message and I kept it. I still bought ice cream cones



—Library of Congress

from the drugstore man, but after that I always felt sorry for him. The principle of the thing—his rejection of me because I was black—continued to haunt me, however.

I remember wondering one day, while sitting on the bank of the creek fishing, why we always went around to our white neighbors' back door to enter, when they could come into our house through the front door. I laid the problem into Mamma's aproned lap. After a long, almost audible silence, she answered, "As you gits along in age, always try to figger in your mind that if you needs to git hold to a way to be a better person and you gots to go 'round to somebody's back door to git it, go on around there, git it, thank 'em fur it, and be on yo way, 'cause when yo gits out into the world they ain't nobody caring 'bout what door you got it from, they jes wanna know, 'Is you got it?'"

I understood Mamma. That was "making do" in an unjust world, being philosophical and working within limitations. In my own mind, however, I was not sure I had to accept those limitations. Again I wondered about the principle of the thing, but you just didn't say some things, not in those days.

Mamma may not have been a one-woman revolutionary, but she was no white man's patsy either. There was power in her the day she confronted Mr. M— at our front gate. Mr. M— was a man who had a bad habit of riding his horse across our yards and flower beds. None of us ever said anything to him about it, because he was a white man. But one summer afternoon Mamma and us kids were rocking on the front porch when up rides Mr. M—. Mamma commenced to sing, softly, "Amazing Grace." By the time Mr. M— reached our gate, Mamma had got the double-barreled shotgun and was holding it in her lap and rocking with a new determination.

"Now Mr. M—," she said.

He looked up. She stopped rocking.

"Mr. M—," she went on, "you been riding across niggers' yards all these years. But I ain't going t' stand for it. I'll shoot yo ass off sho as you bo'n."

We all looked at Mamma with incredulous faces. Taking on a white man was one thing, but Mamma using such strong language? We couldn't believe our ears. But that was only the beginning. She cussed him to a fare-thee-well. I am not about to repeat what she said, word for word, but here is a more or less laundered version of the exchange between them:

"Ah, now, come on, Aunt Sarah, you don't mean that."

"Oh yes I do. Don't you ride that horse 'cross this yard, 'cause if you do I'm gonna shoot the living s— outta you. They's either gonna be a dead nigger, a dead horse, or a dead white man on this day."


"I means what I say, just thataway, and it just ain't fo today. It's fo'ever."

"Aunt Sarah," Mr. M— said, "you're crazy."

But he rode around our yard. He never came through it again.

—Lorece Williams, from *Growing Up in Texas* (Austin: Encino Press, 1972).

# MAY 1976

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>"Mammy &amp; pappy &amp; us twelve children lived in one cabin, so mammy had to cook for fourteen people, besides her field work. She was up way before daylight fixing breakfast &amp; fixed supper after dark with a pine knot torch to make the light."                      —Betty Powers, <i>The Slave Narratives of Texas</i>, ed. Ronnie Tyler &amp; Lawrence Murphy (Austin: Encino Press, 1973).</p>		<p>"The next day the massa called me &amp; told me, 'Woman, I've paid big money for you, &amp; I've done that for the cause I want you to raise me children. I've put you to live with Rufus for that purpose. Now, if you don't want a whipping at the stake, you do what I want.'"                      —Rose Williams, <i>The Slave Narratives of Texas</i>, ed. Ronnie Tyler &amp; Lawrence Murphy (Austin: Encino Press, 1973).</p>		<p>"They thought nothing on the plantation about the feelings of the women, &amp; there was no respect for them. The overseer &amp; white men took advantage of the women like they wanted to. The women had better not make a fuss about such. If she did, it was the whipping for her."                      —Betty Powers, <i>The Slave Narratives of Texas</i>, ed. Ronnie Tyler &amp; Lawrence Murphy (Austin: Encino Press, 1973).</p>		<p><b>1</b>                      Lucy Grimes, freedwoman, refused to punish her child for a minor offense against her employer and was beaten to death by two white men around 1866.</p>
<p><b>2</b>                      Virginia Muzquiz, orator &amp; community organizer from Crystal City, elected Zavala County Chairwoman of Raza Unida Party, May 2, 1970. In 1973 she was "Chicana del Año" of R.U.P.</p>	<p><b>3</b>  </p>	<p><b>4</b>                      ←                      Eddie Bernice Johnson, state representative from Harris County, speaking on prison reform. (Photo by Alan Pogue.)</p>	<p><b>5</b>                      May 5, 1716, Ana Guerra, 1 of 8 women on the St. Denis expedition to settle East Texas, married José Galindo, a soldier, while camped near the Nueces River.</p>	<p><b>6</b>                      Sunday, May 7, 1854, Mrs. Mary A. Maverick of San Antonio gave birth to her 9th child, a son Albert.</p>	<p><b>7</b>                      May 7, 1861, birth of Mrs. Percy U. Pennybacker, orator, early suffrage leader, &amp; 1 of the founders of Texas' educational system, whose husband shared household &amp; child care with her.</p>	<p><b>8</b>                      May 9, 1848, Agatha, age 7, oldest daughter of Mrs. Mary A. Maverick, died of a billious fever in San Antonio.</p>
<p><b>9</b>                      May 9, 1840, Margaret Moffette Lea, age 20, married Sam Houston, age 47, over her family's opposition to his "terrific habits." She converted her husband to the Baptist religion.</p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b>                      This Sunday, 1837, Mrs. Mary A. Maverick gave birth to her 1st child, a son Sam.</p>	<p><b>15</b></p>
<p><b>16</b>                      In 1850, a pregnant black woman, Rachel, &amp; 5 children fled with 2 black men from Smith County into Indian Territory, hoping to find better lives among the Indians.</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b>                      May 19, 1906, Francis Bentley King, black woman in Albany, Texas, gave birth to her 11th child, a daughter Josephine.</p>	<p><b>20</b>                      May 19, 1836, Cynthia Ann Parker, age 9, captured by Comanches &amp; held 25 years, then was forced to return to white culture &amp; died soon after. She was mother of the last chief, Quanah.</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b>                      May 22, 1788, birth of Elizabeth Crockett, who, in 1856, was granted 1 league of land at Acton in Hood County.</p>
<p><b>23</b>                      May 23, 1925, final session of Texas' only all-woman Supreme Court (Miss Ruth</p>	<p><b>24</b>                      Brazzill, Galveston; Hattie L. Henenberg, Dallas; &amp; Mrs. Hortense Ward, Hous-</p>	<p><b>25</b>                      ton, Chief Justice), appointed to hear a case involving a secret organization to which all Texas men of influence belonged, including the 3 current justices of the Supreme Court.</p>	<p><b>26</b></p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b>                      This day, 1971, began 1st national conference of 600 Chicanas, Houston. Major resolutions: Free, legal abortions &amp; birth control &amp; 24-hour child care centers, all Chicana controlled.</p>	<p><b>29</b></p>
<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p>					



Photograph courtesy Fred and Barbara Whitehead.



*Flight Series #8*  
*Over The Rainbow*

Barbara Mathews Whitehead

# JUNE 1976

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<p><i>The Mosque</i>, by Irma Bustos, Red Rock.</p> <p><b>ERRATA: JUNE, JULY, AUGUST</b> Dates off by one day</p> <p>Photos by Alan Pogue.</p>		<p><b>1</b></p> <p>During most of this month in 1846, Mrs. Mary A. Maverick nursed Lewis, Agatha, &amp; Augusta, 3 of her 5 children, through bad cases of the whooping cough in San Antonio.</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>June 4, 1781, uncles &amp; brothers of Ana Mariade la Trinidad Garnes, a mulatta, forbade her marriage to an Indian.</p>
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p>  <p>Austin.</p> <p><i>Padre</i>, by Marion Sherry,</p>	<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p>June 10, 1871, marriage in Austin of Lucy E. Gonzales &amp; Albert Parsons, anarchists &amp; socialists active in labor movement in Chicago culminating in the Haymarket Affair in May 1886.</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>June 10, 1972, as President Pro-Tem of the Texas Senate, Barbara Jordan served as Governor for the day, in the absense from the state of both the Governor &amp; the Lieutenant Governor.</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>  <p>Dallas.</p> <p><i>Man Pot</i>, by Lucille Simonetti-Arnold,</p>
<p><b>12</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>June 14, 1944, Minnie Fisher Cunningham began gubernatorial campaign against incumbent Coke Stevenson, "No Comment Coke," who refused to support FDR or take a stand on any issue.</p>	<p><b>15</b></p>  <p><i>Woman</i>, by Lesta Frank, San Antonio.</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p>On Tuesday, June 17, 1851, at 8 am, Mrs. Mary A. Maverick of San Antonio gave birth to her 8th child &amp; only living daughter. 4 of her sons were still alive.</p>	<p><b>18</b></p>
<p><b>19</b></p> <p>This day, June 19, 1865, "Juneteenth," Gen. Granger of the Union Army landed at Galveston &amp; proclaimed all Negro slaves in the state of Texas to be free.</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>  <p><i>Porcelain Pot</i>, by Pat LeGrand, Dallas</p>	<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>June 22, 1861, Nannie Webb Curtis born, suffragist &amp; prohibitionist, organizer of WCTU &amp; Texas Woman's Democratic League, who wanted her sympathizers to control Democratic Party.</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>
<p><b>26</b></p> <p>June 26, 1914, Mildred Didrikson "Babe" Zaharias, greatest woman athlete of the 1st half of the 20th century, was born at Port Arthur.</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>June 28, 1919, Texas became the first southern state to ratify the Suffrage Amendment to the U. S. Constitution.</p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>June 30, 1937, Emma Tenayuca, one organizer of Pecan Shellers' Strike of San Antonio, arrested in demonstration against wage cutbacks. Judge said, "She belongs in jail."</p>	<p><b>Leather</b>, by Carolyn Thomas, Houston.</p> 	

# La Herencia de Chicanas en Tejas

The heritage of Chicanas in Texas may not be recognized in history books yet, but their contributions to the building of Texas are all around us.

Mexicanas pioneered from the Río Bravo to the East Texas piney woods over a hundred years before white women arrived with Stephen F. Austin's "Old Three Hundred." In 1716, eight Mexicanas left Hidalgo, México, with the St. Denis-Ramón expedition to found settlements on the Texas-Louisiana border. One of the women, Mañuela Sánchez, who had married St. Denis in Hidalgo, was godmother of most of the children born in the Natchitoches area for many years.



*Lucy E. Parsons,*

During the 19th century, Mexicanas helped confront the increasing Anglo domination of the Mexicano population which had begun with the Texian revolt. As early as 1842, Mexicanas were involved in a resistance movement which continued into the 20th century, culminating in a near civil war in South Texas with the Plan de San Diego in 1915.

A few Mexicanas left Texas to participate in radical movements in Mexico and other parts of the U.S. Lucy Eldine Gonzales, who grew up on a small Johnson County ranch and married an Anglo in Austin in 1871, left Texas to become an activist for social change for the rest of her life in Chicago. Her husband, Albert Parsons, was one of six men hanged as the leader of a workers' demonstration for the 8-hour day, known as the Haymarket Affair.

But for most mujeres of the 19th century, the words of Chicana activist Martha Cotera are applicable: "Women? Women leave no records." Their stories are lost.

In the 20th century, Mexican American women become increasingly visible in their demands for justice—as Mexican Americans, as women, and as workers. The Mexican Revolution of 1910, with its demands for returning political and economic power to the common people by redistribution of land, deeply affected many Mexican Americans of Texas. Two sisters, Andrea and Teresa Villareal Gonzales began publishing a socialist monthly out of San Antonio, August 2, 1910. A group of Laredo mujeres, primarily schoolteachers, on October 13, 1911, formed La Liga Feminil Mexicanista, one of the earliest feminist groups in Texas. María Hernández, one of the oldest members of Raza Unida Party, began organizing Chicano civil rights groups with her husband as early as 1929.



Chicanas were at the forefront of one of the most massive strikes in Texas during the Great Depression: the Pecan Shellers Strike of San Antonio. Eighty percent of the workers were women, averaging \$3.00 per week, and packed into ill-lit sheds for 10 hours a day. Emma Tenayuca, popular leader of the 4-month strike and member of the Communist Party, spoke in the streets day after day to crowds of hundreds of workers and supporters.

When La Raza Unida Party was formed in 1971 to represent the political demands of Chicanos, las mujeres became very active. In the 1972 state elections, Alma Canales ran for lieutenant governor, the first Chicana to do so. Elena Díaz was elected County Commissioner in Zavala County, and Martha Cotera ran for State Board of Education. By 1974 there were seven women holding elected offices in Zavala County, the largest number of any county in Texas.

Chicanas have a strong heritage in Texas. They have made many contributions to the building of this state that have never been recognized. Until the '40s they shelled most of the pecans Texans ate. They have cooked the food on many of the large cattle ranches, sewn the clothes worn by people all over the United



States, and harvested much of the fruits and vegetables that we eat everyday. These contributions have not been recognized, because in our society it is not the producers who are considered important: it is the owners of the plants, the ranches, and the farms. Many Chicanas understood this fact long ago and have been struggling against it. At the 1973 conferencia de mujeres, Martha Cotera called for Chicanas to learn the tradition of struggle of Chicanas and Chicanos inside the U. S.:

*Conociendo como el Chicano y la Chicana han luchado siempre, nos daremos cuenta que ellas fueron siempre de acuerdo con su historia, nosotros también, en estos momentos debemos corresponder al momento histórico de lucha por el que estamos pasando, incorporándonos con fuerza y valentía a la lucha política.*

*(By learning how the Chicano and the Chicana have always fought, by realizing that the women were part of a historic struggle, we can better see our relation to the struggle in our own lives, and devote ourselves with strength and courage to the political struggle.)*



# JULY 1976

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<p>From the left: Lucy Gonzales de Parsons who left Texas in 1873 to become a leader in the Chicago socialist movement; María L. Hernández who organized Chicano civil rights groups as early as 1929 (courtesy Chicana Research and Learning Center); participants in the Texas Farmworkers' March in Hidalgo County, May, 1975 (photo by Alan Pogue); Evey Chapa, director of the Chicana Research and Learning Center in Austin and another organizer of the 1973 Conferencia (courtesy Chicana Research and Learning Center).</p> <p>← March of Mujeres against police brutality, Palm Sunday, 1971, in Pharr.</p>			1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<p>July 3, 1856, George, 3rd son of Mrs. Mary A. Maverick, was bitten by a water moccasin while swimming near San Antonio. He recovered.</p>	<p><b>ERRATA: JUNE, JULY, AUGUST</b> Dates off by one day</p>			<p>July 8, 1962, Mrs. Karen Hautze Susman of San Antonio &amp; Chula Vista, Calif., won women's singles at Wimbledon, the only American advancing to the finals in singles competition.</p>	<p>July 8, 1868, T. H. Mundine of Bureson County presented the 1st resolution in Texas to adopt women's suffrage, at the Texas Constitutional Convention. It failed.</p>	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<p>July 10, 1882, Ima Hogg, grande dame of Texas philanthropists &amp; sponsor of all that is "unique &amp; indigenous" to Texas culture, was born.</p>	<p>July 11, 1867, Ann Whitney was killed by Comanche Indians while defending children during an attack on the school house where she taught.</p>	<p>July 12, 1970: "We must no longer be regarded as foreigners. We are Americans of Mexican extraction. Our ancestors were here long before the Anglo-Am-</p>	<p>ericans. It is they who are the newcomers."—María L. Hernández, 1970 Raza Unida Convention.</p>	<p>July 13, 1892, Francis Bently King, Black woman living near Albany, Texas, gave birth to her 5th child, a son George.</p>		<p>July 1889, Mrs. E.C. Kent, Austin, edited &amp; published Vol. I, No. 1 of <i>The Repository</i>, to aid in the "improvement of conditions that control individuals, societies, &amp; governments."</p>
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
<p>July 17, 1945, death of Clara Driscoll, philanthropist noted for her efforts to preserve the Alamo &amp; her 16-year tenure as Democratic National Committee-woman for Texas (1928-44). <i>Time Magazine</i> said, "Politicians learned to respect</p>	<p>her: she could drink, battle, cuss, &amp; connive with the best of them, outspend practically all of them."</p>	<p>July 19, 1850, John Hays, infant son of Mrs. Mary A. Maverick, died at the age of 5 months of cholera infantum in San Antonio.</p>	<p>July 21, 1820, birth of Frances Cox, who spoke 22 languages, learned Russian after age 60, rode horseback daringly, crossed the ocean 15 times, founded</p>	<p>the 1st Episcopal church in Texas at San Augustine, wrote stories &amp; did translations, &amp; married Texas' 1st governor.</p>	<p>July 22, 1937, Mary McLeod Bethune, well-known Black educator &amp; advisor to FDR, spoke in San Antonio.</p>	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	<p>July 24, 1955, Mildred Didrickson "Babe" Zaharias elected to the Helms Track &amp; Field Hall of Fame.</p>		<p>July 27, 1850, birth of Helen Stoddard, president of WCTU, 1891, who lobbied, campaigned, &amp; organized for women's issues in Texas &amp; helped found College of Industrial Arts for women.</p>	<p>July 27, 1882, Mrs. Francis Bently King gave birth to her 2nd child, a daughter, Lottie May, near Albany.</p>	<p>July 29, 1896, birth of María L. Hernández of Lytle, Texas, since 1924 an activist Chicana.</p>	

An article in the *Dallas Morning News* of November 1, 1935, commented on women in sports a half-century earlier: "Sports in those days were almost entirely masculine. A lady might drive a pair of fine horses hitched to a shiny buggy or cart. If she were young and active, she might climb into a side saddle and ride horseback through the streets or even follow the hounds after mule-eared rabbits on the city's outskirts." But interest in women's sports seemed to take hold, in Dallas and elsewhere, around the turn of the century. By 1895, cycling was a popular sport for both men and women, and two years later the Dallas YWCA enrolled 22 young women in its 'physical culture class for ladies.'



—Sue White.

One of the most important organizations to promote women's athletics throughout the state has been the University Interscholastic League, with its series of regional and state tournaments. Since 1920, the UIL has sponsored both singles and doubles tennis events for girls. Girls' high school basketball has been played at the state level since 1951.

Today new advances are being made. In March, 1974, the Austin Women's Soccer League was organized. A year later, Austin saw its first women's professional tennis tournament. The University of Texas at Austin has established a Department of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women and, for the school year 1975-76, will field teams in seven sports to compete against teams from the other major Texas colleges.

An honor roll of Texas Sportswomen would include:

—Mildred Didrikson (Babe) Zaharias of Port Arthur. Considered the greatest all-around athlete of the first half of the century, Babe first made sports headlines in the 1930's as an All-American forward for the Golden Cyclones, a women's basketball team from Dallas. She broke or tied four world track and field records in the

# Texas Athletes



—Robin Birdfeather.

1932 Olympics, won the women's U.S. Open Golf Tournament in 1948, '50, and '54, and the Western Open in 1940, '44, '45, and '50. She took third place in the World Championship of Golf in Chicago in 1953, less than four months after an operation for the cancer which took her life three years later. Babe was elected to the Helms Track and Field Hall of Fame in 1955.

—The Dillard sisters of Fort Worth: Mary Belle, Nancy, Jane, and Babe. Each of these four daughters of a swimming family achieved state and/or national recognition. Jane, the most outstanding swimmer in the family, set six national records in the breaststroke and was honored as one of the first four individuals chosen for the Texas Swimming Hall of Fame.

—Golfers Betty Jameson of Dallas and Fort Worth; Betsy Rawls, former Austin resident and UT honor student; Aniela Goldthwaite and Polly Ann Riley, both of Fort Worth. Ms. Rawls was the top money winner on the women's professional golf tour in 1959. Ms. Jameson won two women's national amateur championships



—Cactus Yearbook, 1904.

and took the women's national open in 1947. She was voted into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame in 1968. Ms. Goldthwaite won the first tournament she entered, in 1930, and in 1968, won the Texas Senior Women's Championship. She played on the 1934 and 1936 Curtis Cup teams and in 1952 was selected as the non-playing captain of that team. Ten years later, Ms. Riley, the only woman ever to play on six Curtis Cup teams, was afforded the same honor. She began playing golf at the age of 12 when her mother made her quit football because it was too unladylike for a girl of her age!

—Ruth Herring, Fort Worth hydroplane racer. The first time she drove in a race, Ms. Herring's boat was 'accidentally' swamped by two men who wanted her to know that women were not welcome in hydroplane competition. Her next time out she beat both of them—and went on to win 17 out of her first 25 races. During the six seasons she raced, Ruth won over 100 races, most against all-male fields, and set four world records.

—Glenn Lattimore, Fort Worth sailor. Ms. Lattimore began sailing in 1950 at the age of 25 and in 1956 captained the team that won the North American Women's Sailing Championship. She won 10 consecutive Texas Yachting Association Championships from 1959 to 1968, and in 1965 she took the Gulf Coast Championship over all-male competition.




—Robin Birdfeather.



# AUGUST 1976

ERRATA: JUNE, JULY, AUGUST  
Dates off by one day

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>This day, 1975, weaver Ann Bones began 6-month stay at Paisano Ranch, 1st woman to win McDermott Foundation-Texas Institute of Letters Fellowship, Dobbie-Paisano Project, UTFIL.</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p>This day, 1910, Teresa Villareal Gonzales, San Antonio, began socialist monthly, <i>El Obrero</i> (The Worker). She was a feminist &amp; organizer in the Magonista movement, an attempt to spread into Texas the socialist demands &amp; ideas of the Mexican Revolutionary, Flores Magon.</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>This day, 1973, 1st statewide Conferencia de Mujeres por la Raza Unida was held at San Antonio.</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>August 1, 1974, 1st publication of <i>La Mujer Chicana</i>, history curriculum for high school in Crystal City Independent School District.</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>August 2, 1846, Mary Austin Holley, diarist &amp; cousin of Stephen F. Austin, died.</p>
<p><b>7</b></p> <p>This month, 1851, Mary, only daughter of Mrs. Mary A. Maverick of San Antonio, became ill &amp; was thin &amp; weak until cured by immersion twice daily in bone meal soup for 6 months.</p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>This day, 1951, Patricia McCormick, bullfighter from Big Spring, entered the ring for the 1st time: "What is mine is the aspiration to reach the top category attained by the best men of</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p>the profession—an aspiration driven by the restless need to satisfy something in me that seeks to discover in this art the meaning of my life."</p>
<p><b>14</b></p> <p>"While he rears back in his swivel chair, / Puffs out a smoke &amp; hasn't a care, / She battles the public for his dear sake, / Varnishes the truth &amp; hides his mistake."—Mrs. A. E. Moon,</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Stanza 6, "What the Business Girl Means to her Boss," <i>The Bulletin of the Texas Federation of Business &amp; Professional Women's Clubs</i>, August, 1928.</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p>This day, 1953, Mildred Didrikson "Babe" Zaharias was voted into the Texas Sports Hall of Fame.</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>August 19, 1897, Francis Bently King gave birth to her 8th child, son Clifford, near Albany, Texas.</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>This day, 1870, birth of Annie Webb Blanton, educator elected 1st woman State Superintendent of Public Schools in 1919 as Texas State Woman's Suffrage Association candidate.</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>
<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>This day, 1957, Mrs. Ruth Seeger, instructor at Texas School for the Deaf, began her participation as the only American woman at the International Games for the Deaf, Milan, Italy.</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>This day, 1910, death of Sara Estela Ramirez, poetess &amp; activist, a leading socialist organizer in Laredo, 1900-1909, &amp; supporter of Magonistas &amp; Federal Labor Union organizers.</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>
<p><b>28</b></p> <p>August 1893, Olive B. Lee of Dallas edited &amp; published 1st issue of <i>The Period</i>, later <i>Lee's Magazine</i>, which claimed in 1899 to be "the only literary magazine now regularly published in the state."</p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p>	<p>Pease School Field Day, 1974. (Photo by Robin Birdfeather.) →</p>		

# WOMEN IN THE TEXAS LABOR MOVEMENT

In the history of labor strikes in Texas, women have led some of the most determined efforts by workers to demand their rights to decent wages, decent working conditions, and dignity as producers of goods and services. It's not surprising either—given women's wages and working conditions in the state.

Before World War I, some of the highest paid women were department store clerks at 15 cents an hour; the lowest paid were pecan shellers at 4½ cents. Women's wages were so low that in 1921 a San Antonio welfare commission reported that women earned \$1.55 less for the average weekly wage than was necessary to keep them "physically and morally fit."

Conditions were little better by the 30's. In 1935 Dallas cotton garment workers made \$2 to \$10 for a 54-hour work week; silk workers received \$6 to \$18. Chicanas in San Antonio garment factories were doing piece work by hand—work that took a high degree of skill—for an average wage of \$3 to \$5 per week for 70 hours of labor. One firm, which sold its silk evening dresses for \$19.75, paid its fastest operators \$4.60 for four days work. Also, the women had to pay for any oil spots on the gowns, even though the machines had to be oiled constantly.

Emma Tenayuca, popular leader of the Pecan Sheller's Strike. (Photo courtesy Texas Work Projects Administration, Library of Congress.)



In response to these oppressive working conditions, women led one of the earliest depression strikes in Texas. On March 9, 1935, a strike was called by the International Ladies Garment Workers Union against the Sheba Ann Frock Company of Dallas. One ILGWU member told how the strike began:

One girl was to throw the switch, shutting down the plant and the girls were all to walk out. When she went to throw the switch she saw two police guarding it. Passing them,



San Antonio Garment Workers in jail, 1935. (Photo courtesy Division of Archives and Manuscripts, Library, U.T. at Arlington.)

she grabbed a fire bucket and dashed the contents into their faces. While they wiped their eyes, she threw the switch. During the strike she was in jail on 47 different occasions.

Probably the largest and most militant strike of the 30's was led by Chicanas in the pecan shelling industry in San Antonio. On February 1, 1938, several thousand shellers, 80% of whom were Chicanas, walked off their jobs in protest of a wage cut. Emma Tenayuca, a welfare worker in the New Deal Work Projects Administration and a member of the Communist Party, was a popular leader of the strike. For two years Emma had led demonstrations in San Antonio, demanding welfare for the unemployed and re-establishment of laid-off workers. During the four-month strike she would speak in the streets to crowds of hundreds of workers and supporters.

Pecan Shellers at work. (Photo by Russell Lee, 1939, courtesy of Farm Security Administration.)



Twenty years later in the same city, Chicanas led another militant strike: the Tex-Son garment strike. In an attempt to stop scabs from entering the plant, the strikers, swinging their purses, broke through police gauntlets set up to protect the scabs. A five minute movie, "Mother is on Strike," which focused on Helen Martínez, a Tex-Son striker trying to support her four children on \$10 a week, won an award at the 1971 International Film Festival in Stockholm.

The most famous Texas strike and certainly one of the longest and most violently opposed by the owners was the Farah strike—a strike led and carried on largely by Chicanas. It took two years of striking and a nationwide boycott of Farah pants to finally force the owner to recognize the union and negotiate a contract.




Janie Lozano during Tex-Son Garment Workers' Strike, San Antonio, 1959. (Photo courtesy of Division of Archives and Manuscripts, Library, U.T. at Arlington.)

Mañuela Sánchez, a Farah striker in El Paso, told a *Texas Observer* writer her reasons for walking out on strike:

At the break is the only time you can go to the bathroom. If you have to go . . . when it is not break, the supervisor sees you and he waits for you outside and when you come out he asks why you went in, what took you so long. Perhaps it is your period, you have to mess with the machine and you are tired and you must change clothes or perhaps it is diarrhea you have. But it is embarrassing to say this to the supervisor, so you just say you don't know why it took so long and look dumb. And then he looks at you like . . . it is not good.

No, it is not good. It is *not* good that working women, especially Chicanas and Black women, have been denied decent wages and working conditions and even their dignity as human beings. What *is* good is that women in Texas have led and are continuing to lead the struggles workers are forced to instigate in order to secure these simple rights.

# SEPTEMBER 1976

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<p>Houston Garment Workers, 1936. (Photo courtesy Division of Archives and Manuscripts, Library, U.T. at Arlington.)</p>	1	2 <p>This day, 1878, Ida Roberts married Will Wallace &amp; moved to Llano County. As a girl, she was famous for her horsemanship. Seeing her on horseback once, someone exclaimed, "Look!</p>	3 <p>That horse is running away with that girl!" "Oh, no," was the reply, "That's just Ida Roberts; she rides that way all the time."</p>	4 <p>September 4, 1876, Helen Marr (Swearingen) Kirby opened her private school at Austin.</p>
5	6	7 <p>This Sunday, 1845, at 7 pm, Mrs. Mary A. Maverick of San Antonio gave birth to her 5th child, a son George Madison.</p>	8	9	10 <p>In 1878 Mrs. Francis Bently (later King), a black woman living near Albany, Texas, gave birth to her 1st child, a son, James Wilson.</p>	11
12 <p>In 1835 Mrs. Sara Bradley Dodson designed &amp; made the 1st Texas flag, of hand-woven materials, in Madisonville, Madison County.</p>	13	14 <p>In 1950 Llerena Friend, author of <i>Sam Houston: the Great Designer</i>, was appointed librarian of the Texas Collection at U.T., now the Eugene C. Barker Texas History Collection.</p>	15	16	17 <p>Congreso Mexicanista held in Laredo this day, 1911. One topic of discussion was a resolution to "thoroughly teach children the English language . . . in conjunction with the Spanish language." Another topic of interest was "the admission of other</p>	18 <p>children of foreign nations to American schools, while the Mexican children are compelled to attend segregated schools."</p>
19	20	21	22 <p>This month, 1846, all 5 children of Mrs. Mary A. Maverick were ill with measles: one packed in a wet sheet "to compel the measles to the surface," another having sore ears afterwards.</p>	23	24	25 <p>This day, 1895, Mrs. Francis Bently King of Albany, Texas, gave birth to her 7th child, a son Richard.</p>
26	27 <p>This day, 1956, Mildred Didrikson "Babe" Zaharias died of cancer.</p>	28 <p>This day, 1911, 4 Mexicanas were arrested by immigration authorities in San Antonio, taken to Laredo, &amp; deported.</p>	29	30 <p>In the year 1902 Mrs. Allen Willbanks saw only 2 women while living on the XIT Ranch in the Panhandle. One was the wife of a cowboy &amp; the other Mrs. W. saw only at a distance, passing about 1/2 mile away.</p>	Of Texas' 24 seats in the U.S. House of Representatives, only 1 is held by a woman.	

## "A Group of Women Registrants"

These women were among the first to register to vote in Texas in the culmination of a 50-year long struggle for suffrage. The first suffrage resolution, presented at a state constitution convention in 1868 by T.H. Mundine of Burleson County, was rejected. Organized agitation began in 1893, when forty-eight Dallas women formed the Texas Equal Rights Association. In 1896 the Association dissolved due to a quarrel over whether to have Susan B. Anthony speak in Texas. The Finnigan sisters of Houston, Annette, Elizabeth, and Katherine, revived the movement in 1903, but with their departure from Texas in 1905 the movement again died. Local societies were organized in Austin in 1908 and in San Antonio in 1912, and by 1913 enough interest had again been generated to form a state suffrage association. Texas women won the right to vote in the state primary in March, 1918, and with the ratification of the 19th Amendment in June of 1919, they gained full suffrage. After suffrage, which had been the focus of women reformers for twenty-five years, was won, the reform groups began to disintegrate. An organized, effective women's lobby continued to work in the Texas Legislature until 1925, but the heyday of women's reform groups was over. No issue at that time could bring women together as a political group in the way that suffrage had done.



—Photo courtesy State Archives.

## "Mrs. Democrat of Texas"

Minnie Fisher Cunningham of Galveston (1882-1964) led the Texas suffragists from 1915 until 1919 in their fight for the vote. As president of the Texas Equal Suffrage Association, she traveled throughout Texas and other Southern states, often making three speeches at as many meetings each day. An expert organizer and recruiter, she was instrumental in increasing the number of local suffrage associations by 400% during her first year in office. When opposition forces in the state Senate attempted to break the pro-suffrage quorum by hustling senators out of town before the final vote on June 28, 1919, the suffragists prevented their departure by staking out the train station. Cunningham personally discovered two senators hiding under a train seat. "Minnie Fish" ran for governor in 1944 at the age of sixty-two because she believed the incumbent, "No Comment Coke" Stevenson, was mishandling state funds and not cooperating with the federal government's wartime anti-inflation measures.

## WOMEN AND THE

Jane Yelvington McCallum (1878-1957) successfully combined an active career as a feminist with raising a family of five children and regarded this as her greatest achievement. She was one of the main organizers of the state suffrage movement and later served as its principal historian. As Executive Secretary of the "Petticoat Lobby" of the 38th and 39th Legislatures (1922-1925), a coalition of women's groups, she spent long hours conferring with politicians and citizens and cir-



"Jane Y"

## BATTLE FOR SUFFRAGE

culating press stories on the need for various reforms. Measures passed due to the lobby's effectiveness included an emergency school appropriation, a more stringent prohibition law, a survey of the state prison and educational systems, registration of all births, and an appropriation for expectant mothers and infants. McCallum's impressive record helped her win election as Secretary of State, the post she held from 1927 to 1933.

# OCTOBER 1976

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<p>Che Che García, a Chilean national who studied and taught in Texas for 11 years, was deported for radical activity in 1973. On returning to Chile, she was imprisoned by the military junta. It took a year and a half of agitation in this country to secure her release. (Photo by Alan Pogue.)</p>				1	2 <p>This day, 1906, Mollie Bailay put her circus on a specially-equipped train in Garland, Texas, being 1 of the 1st circus owners to transport a show by rail.</p>
3 <p>In 1893 Mrs. Annie Dickinson Cusenbary married &amp; moved to a ranch on the line of Sutton &amp; Edwards counties. She is credited with installing the 1st bathtub in Sutton County.</p>	4	5 <p>For 5 nights after Saturday, October 6, 1850, Mrs. Mary A. Maverick of San Antonio poured cold water all night long over the arm of her son Lewis, who had fallen from a pecan tree, breaking both bones in his</p>	6 <p>right arm, just above the wrist. He was in such pain that he could not sleep.</p>	7 <p>According to <i>The Austin Gazette</i>, on this day, 1854, an overseer tied a Black woman slave to a post and whipped her to death.</p>	8	9
10 <p>This day, 1911, the Liga Femenil Mexicanista was formed at the Worker's Hall in Laredo, under the auspices of the Congreso Mexicanista; and Jovita Idar, publisher of Corpus Christi newspaper <i>El Eco del Gul-</i></p>	11 <p><i>fo</i>, and a precursor of liberalism among women, was chosen president.</p>	12	13	14	15	16 <p>This day, 1902, Carrie Nation visited UT, rallying students &amp; denouncing the school's administrators as creators of an "ideal den of inequity."</p>
17 <p>This day, 1857, Mrs. Mary A. Maverick of San Antonio gave birth to her 10th child, a daughter Elizabeth.</p>	18	19 <p>October 20, 1783, Mañuel Padron was fined for beating his wife Juana Travieso &amp; insulting her by calling her "mulata," term used among the Spanish in Texas for the children of a Negro-Caucasian union, &amp; hence, for anyone with</p>	20 <p>dark skin, a physical characteristic not admired by these early Texas racists.</p>	21 <p>October 20, 1881, the 7-day-old baby of Maggie Brooking died. She observed, "Don't it look hard to suffer as we poor women have to to no good? Hard but just, I suppose."</p>	22 <p>On the night of October 22, 1847, the family of Mrs. Mary A. Maverick of San Antonio stayed with "old lady Trimble" at her place between Gonzales &amp; New Braunfels. Mrs. Trimble's 1st husband had been killed &amp; her 2nd died at the Ala-</p>	23 <p>mo. 3 months after his death, she gave birth to twin girls. Her older daughter gave birth to a girl 7 weeks after <i>her</i> husband had been killed in battle, &amp; then died herself. This 5-year-old grandchild &amp; her own 2 young daughters,</p>
24 <p>now age 11, were the old lady's complete responsibility &amp; only companionship.</p>	25	26	27	28	29 <p>October 30, 1840: a memorial to Fannie McFarland, who was granted her freedom 8 years after coming to Texas in 1827. Living at San Felipe, she lost all her possessions in the Texas revolution. In 1837 she</p>	30 <p>moved to Houston &amp; by "industry, prudence, &amp; economy" gathered together a little property.</p>
31						

Most of the tribes who hunted the buffalo, including the Comanche and Wichita of Texas, told legends of the Buffalo Woman, an Earth Mother figure who had led them to their homeland on the Plains. One such legend told by an old Pawnee describes the beginning of the world:

Once, long ago, all things were waiting in a deep place far underground. There were the great herds of buffaloes and all the people, and the antelope too, and wolves, deer, and rabbits—everything, even the little bird that sings the *tear-tear* song. Everything waited as in sleep.

Then the one called Buffalo Woman awoke, stretched her arms, rose, and began to walk. She walked among all the creatures, past the little *tear-tear* bird, the rabbits and all the rest and through the people too, and the buffaloes. Everywhere as she passed there was an awakening, and a slow moving, as when the eyes were making ready for some fine new thing to be seen. Buffalo Woman walked on in the good way, past even the farthest buffaloes, the young cows with their sleeping yellow calves. She went on to a dark round place that seemed like a hole and she stood there a while, looking. Then she bowed her head a little, as one does to pass under the lodge flap, and stepped out. Suddenly the people could see there was a great shining light all about her, a shining and brightness that seemed blinding as she was gone.



Portrait of Hattie Tom, Apache, courtesy Museum of the American Indian, New York.

And now a young cow arose and followed the woman, and then another buffalo and another, until a great string of them was following, each one for a moment in the shining light of the hole before he was gone, and the light fell upon the one behind. When the last of the buffaloes was up and moving, the people began to rise, one after another, and fell into a row too, each one close upon the heels of the moccasins ahead. All the people, young and old and weak and strong, went so, out through the hole, out upon the shining, warm, and grassy place that was the earth, with a wide river flowing below, and over everything a blueness, with the *tear-tear* bird flying toward the sun, the warming sun. The buffaloes were already scattering over the prairie, feeding, spreading in every direction toward the circle that is the horizon. The people looked all around and knew this was their place, the place upon which they would live forever, they and the buffalo together.

—Mari Sandoz, *The Buffalo Hunters* (New York: Hastings House, 1954).

## INDIAN WOMEN OF TEXAS



Sue Mason

Sue Mason of Arlington, Texas, pictured here at the 1974 Comanche Homecoming in Walters, Oklahoma, last year organized the Texas Chapter of the North American Indian Women's Association. With an estimated 15,000 American Indians in the Dallas area, Sue hopes that the Texas Chapter can bring together some of the Indian women in North Central Texas. At least eight tribes are represented in the chapter, among them Navajo, Seminole, Kiowa, and Cheyenne. For the Pow Wows and Homecomings, she and some of the other women make their own necklaces, belts, fans, and moccasins.

The great-granddaughter of Quanah Parker, Sue Mason is proud of her Indian heritage: "I want people to know what I am."

An expectant Wichita mother pitched a tepee hard by her grass house where she was attended during delivery by an elderly, experienced midwife. A new father was prohibited from entering his wife's lodge for four days after birth because it was felt his presence might make both mother and child sick. Soon after the birth, another old woman, especially knowledgeable in the mythology of the moon (Bright Shining Woman), took the infant to the river and bathed it. At the river she prayed to the moon and another deity called Man-Never-Known-On-Earth that the child would grow as rapidly as did the moon in its monthly cycle. She sprinkled water on the infant's head, immersed it completely, and prayed to the spirit of the water. Afterward, when the moon next appeared, the child was again taken from the grass house and was held up and shown to the moon, again with the prayer that it would grow as surely as would the moon.

—W. W. Newcomb, Jr., *The Indians of Texas* (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1961).



—Photo by Ann Roubideaux.

Holly Echo Hawk

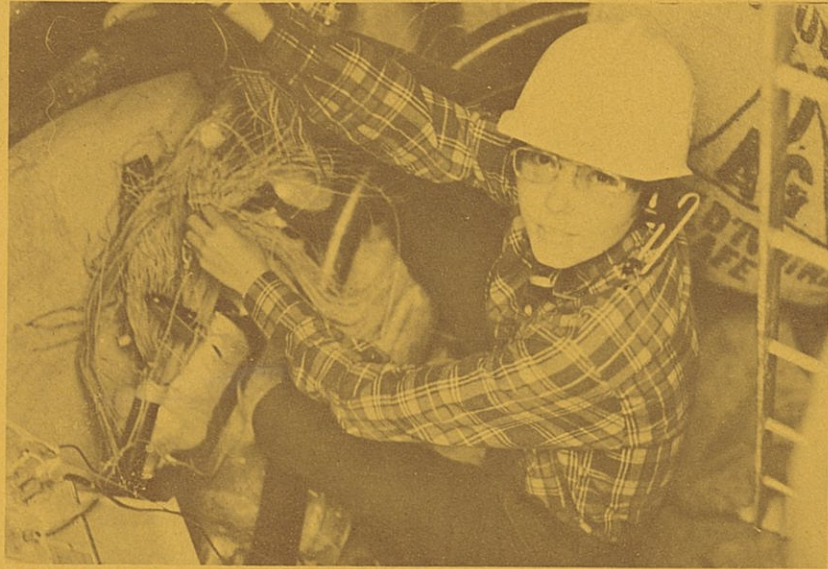
Holly Echo Hawk, the only full-blooded American Indian out of 44,000 students at the University of Texas at Austin, was the main organizer of the Indians Discover Columbus celebration held in Austin, October 12, 1974.

Holly, a Pawnee from Pawnee, Oklahoma, with Burk Armstrong, a Mohawk from New York, formed AINT (American Indians Now in Texas) in 1973 to raise the consciousness of the U.T. administration toward American Indians—in recruitment of Indian students, scholarships, hiring, and course content. Currently serving as a board member of Project Info, U.T.'s office of minority recruitment, Holly feels that some recognition of American Indians as a distinct minority has been achieved. But she is critical of the administration's continued failure to firmly address issues affecting American Indians and Third World people in general.

# NOVEMBER 1976

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>This day, 1826, birth of Maud J. Young, self-taught botanist, who wrote the 1st science book for the Texas public schools, a 646-page botany text, &amp; became the State Botanist, 1872-73.</p>	<p><b>2</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>In 1884 Mrs. Sadie Newton Bogel came to Alamito, Presidio County, &amp; is credited with installing the 1st bathtub in the county soon afterward.</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>
<p><b>7</b></p> <p>This day, 1972, Elena Díaz of Crystal City was elected County Commissioner of Zavala County, 1st Chicana elected in a partisan election under el Partido de la Raza Unida en Tejas.</p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p>Chipita Rodríguez, popularly held to be the only woman legally hanged in Texas, was executed Friday, November 13, 1863, at San Patricio, for the alleged murder of a gun-runner, John Savage, whose body was found near her</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p>house. The case was tried on circumstantial evidence by an all-white, all-male jury, made up mostly of courthouse officials, under Judge Neal, a wealthy landowner, lawyer, and local businessman.</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>
<p><b>14</b></p> <p>Karen Silkwood of Longview, research technician at Kerr-McGee Cimarron Facility atomic energy plant in Oklahoma, died mysteriously November 13, 1974, in a car wreck, while on her way to deliver to a <i>New York Times</i> reporter</p>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>the results of her critical investigation into the lack of adequate safety precautions to protect the plant's workers. Her papers disappeared from the wrecked automobile and have never been found.</p>	<p><b>16</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>In 1901 Mrs. Allen Willbanks lived with her husband &amp; infant daughter, while he drilled wells on the XIT Ranch in the Panhandle, &amp; did not see another woman the entire year.</p>
<p><b>21</b></p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>This day, 1941, was the last time <i>Blue Smoke</i>, the book of poems by Karle Wilson Baker, early 20th-century Texas poet, was checked out of the Barker Library at UT-Austin, until our researcher found it in August, 1975.</p>	<p><b>27</b></p>
<p><b>28</b></p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p>November, 1899, Mrs. Henrie Clay Ligon Gorman, Ft. Worth, edited Vol. I, No. 1, <i>The Bohemian</i>, devoted to the "improvement, mutual benefit, &amp; the development of Southern literature."</p>	<p>Comanche woman's cradleboard. (Photo courtesy of Texas Memorial Museum.)</p>		<p>The number of women holding elective office in Texas increased from 6.4% to 14.1% in 1974, with most of them at the county level.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">—•—•—•—•—•—•—</p> <p>Of 150 state representatives in Texas, 7, or 4.6% are women. Only 1 state senator is a woman.</p>	

# TEXAS WOMEN TODAY



WOMEN





WOMEN





# DECEMBER 1976

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Clockwise, from top left: Telephone repairwoman (photo by Robin Birdfeather); Ann Bones, artist, at her wheel (photo by Ave Bonar); Rosemary Thomas of Austin Ballet Theatre, dancing tribute to Mahalia Jackson, 1974 (photo by Bill Records); woman and child (photo by Alan Pogue); Martha Cotera, speaking at Women's Affairs investigative hearing in Austin, 1975 (photo by Robin Birdfeather); Madalyn Murray O'Hair, taping a radio broadcast (courtesy Austin <i>American Statesman</i>); Velma Roberts, welfare rights organizer in Austin (photo by Alan Pogue). Center: Billy Faye Walker, who occupied the Governor's office for three days in 1974 to demand prison reform (photo by Alan Pogue).</p>			1	2	3 This day, 1946, Minnie Fisher Cunningham called for a liberal rally in Austin to combat the "strong forces in Texas & the nation that are endeavoring to turn the state & national	4 governments to policies of conservatism & reaction," as the McCarthy era got underway.
5	6 Laura Foute, Sara Hartman, & Mrs. Fannie Reese Pugh edited & published Vol. 1, No. 1, <i>The Gulf Messenger: Illustrated Monthly Magazine of the Gulf States</i> , in San Antonio, Houston, & Dallas, December, 1891. →	7 "Its mechanical make up, type of material published, comparatively long life [7 years], & the favorable comments it drew from other publishers establish [it] as an important literary magazine of Texas."	8	9	10 December 10, 1878, death of Jane McManus Cazneau, a founder of Eagle Pass, daughter of N.Y. Congressman, & lover of Aaron Burr. She invested heavily in Texas, believing in its future.	11 This day, 1841, Zelia Husk, free woman of color, lived at Houston, "peaceably earning her livelihood" by "exercising the industry of a washerwoman."
12 December 11, 1853, Mrs. Mary A. Maverick wrote to her husband Samuel that she intended to attend a lecture series on psychology: "I don't understand why knowledge & science is forbidden to woman, I	13 know 'tis not Our Father's will which denies us. Man, vain man. . . ."	14 December 12, 1956, Neville Colson of Navasota served as Governor for this day, while both the Governor & Lt. Governor were out of state. She represented her district in the state legislature longer than any other	15 woman—1938-1948 in the House & 1948-1967 in the Senate—29 years.  December 15, 1884, Francis Bently King gave birth to her 3rd child, a daughter Jeannette, near Albany.	16 December 15, 1972, "Ima Hogg Appreciation Day" in Houston, in honor of Miss Ima's 90th birthday. Daughter of former governor Jim Hogg, she dedicated her life to the preservation of the "unique & indigenous culture" called Texan.	17	18
19 This day, 1860, Lt. Kelliheir stated, concerning the recapture of Cynthia Ann Parker from the Comanches: "I ran me horse most to death & captured a damn squaw."	20	21	22	23	24 This Friday, Christmas Eve, 1847, Mrs. Mary A. Maverick gave birth to her 6th child, a son Willie H.	25 Xmas Day, 1845, Ellen McKinney (later Arnold), a child living with her family in a tent on the Lavaca River 12 miles from Hallettsville, picked snap beans for Xmas dinner.  <b>Christmas Day</b>
26	27	28	29	30 December 30, 1880, death of Mrs. Jane Long, called "Mother of Texas," because she gave birth to the first child of English descent in Texas, December 21, 1820, a daughter, Mary James.	31 This day, 1792, Spanish census of Texas recorded 186 mulatta & Negro women as "free citizens." In 1836 census of Texas Republic, these women & their descendants were unnoted. Photo by Judy Babinsky. →	



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