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Deallew, Defan Eavly Childhood 4-20-76

PRESIDENT FORD COMMITTEE -- Harlingen

Schedule-- April 20, 1976
Mrs Ford and Mrs Tower

1:25 Arrive Harlingen Eonfederate Air Force Hangar
Nelcome: Mayor \& Mrs Robert Youker
Mrs Marjorie Dierlam, District Coord. from Ford Campaign.
Mrs. Eva Carter, Mr. Barcly Armstoong
Mrs. Alene Moses. (delegate candidates).
$\triangle$ ili Fervin ( $C_{0}$ Ford Chair.)
Haroldo rodriguez and Stephanie Yvette
Blake, winners of first Prize for custume,
Bicentennial Farade and contest riarlinzen Sohool
Histrict
Press area bus to hq
1:40 Arrive Ford Headquarters.
welcome; Mrs. Henrietta Sibley, Telephone Canvas Chairman.
Mrs. Virginia Anton, Vol. Chairman.
beer and sandsiches are set aside for peess ( open for press-b/4 of limited space we ask the media altenate on going inside hq.
2:00 Arrive Augtiry Elementarv School
$W^{e l c o m e: ~ M r . ~ J e s s e ~ G B o m e z ~ P r e s ., ~ S c h o o l ~ b o a r d, ~}$ Dr. Norma Schultz, immed past Pres., Rev. Ben warrenburg..V.P. School Bd. Mr. William David. Principal. students.
(Press along righ aisle facing stage-photo equip. in front *
side).
2:35 Arrive harlingen, Confed. A.F. Aangear Welcome- "Parade of Predisents"
Depart for orpus Christi ${ }^{\checkmark}$ stddehs from Bom elem. School.

Greeters ( will be on stage with Mrs Ford and Mrs Tower; seated on the sidelines)

Mr. Jesse Gomez, President School Board
Dr. Norma Shultz, immediate past President
Rev. Ben Warrnburg, Vice President
Mr. Vance Little ton, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. William (Bill) David, Principal Austin Elememtary

Pledge of Alliegence
President of School Board -- Introduction of and turns program over to Dr. Schultz

Dr Shultz welcomes Mrs Ford and Mrs Tower
Gail Gonzoles, 3rd grade, Austin Flem. gives her prize winning sppech (lst place district award) (3 mins)

The Singing Houstonians -- Houston Elem. School
Mrs Franees Gillette, Director prezent a medley of patriotic songs

Dr Shultz presents 3 students who will give Mrs Ford a banner made by students during the Bicentennial contest and parade

Students will also give Mrs Ford \& Mrs Tower copies of a yearbook made entirely by sixth grade students at the Austin School (They wrote it, took their own photos, etc.

Mrs Ford; thank yous, praise for their efforts in celebrating the Bicentennial, etc.

Presentation of certificates-Austin School to Principal William David
Certificates for other schools to sererintendent Vance littleton

All children will sing "America the Beautiful"as Mrs Ford and Mrs Tower leave
( The center aisle will be open if they wish to greet the children in the audience before leaving)

To Airport:
38 boys and 38 girls dressed as all of the Presidents and their wives will line the path to the plane. They are from Bonham Elementary Sbhool, Harlingen
zor immediate रelease
Tues. , rpril 20,1975

## MEDIA ADVISORY

Nrs. Ford and Mrs Tower Visit narlingen, Texas

Mrs. Gerald R. Ford accompanied by Nrs. Lou Tower, wife of Senator John Tower('R. Texas") will arrive in Harlingen today at 1:25 P.M. at the Confederate Air Force Hanger. ${ }^{\Omega}$ red carpet will be laid down by 20 members of the Harlingen Area Chamber of Commerce Sixshooter Club ander the direction of Mr . John 'homas Leimon. The 30 piece band of the Narine hilitary academy will play the music at the airport reception.

The welcoming committee, led by Harlingen Nayor and Nrs. रobert Youker, includes Mrs. Manning Dierlam (Marjorie) of Brownsville, Ford Campaign Coordinator for Congressional District 15, Delegate Candiadates; Barclay Armstrong, Mrs. Samuel Carter (Eva), and Mrs. Leo Moses (Alene). Two elementary school children, haroldo Rodriguez, 5, from the austin School. Stephanie Yvette Dlake will also greet the Firet Lady, in sicentennial costumes. These 2 children won the 1 st place district award for costumes in the recent Bicentennial parade and contest sponsored by the harlingen schools. Haroldo and Stephanie will present irs. Ford with a scrapbook of the district schools' Dicentennial celebration. Mayor Youker will prodlaim today "Betty Ford Day" and present the First Lady with the first key to the dity of rarlingen ever awarded. From the airport Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Tower will travel by motor-
reps of eech schar)
here - Cloce (con bets in eoch silurol. 1 selected ha dreng

1
cade to a reception at Headquarters where they will be greeted by rienrietta Sibley, Telephone Canvas Chairman and Virginia Anton, Volunteer Chairman. They will meet the President's Campaign volunteers and sample homemade ice cream made by local volunteers. $I_{t}$ is hoped that time will permit Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Tower to make some canvas calls to Resistered voters in the area on behalf of the Presidett.

At the Austin School, a short trip by motorcade from the hq, Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Tower will join nearly 500 fists through 6th year students in the cafeteria for a Bicettennial perforance. Mrs. Ford and Virs. Tower will watch the program from the stage, accompanied by Harlingen School Doard menbers, Mr. Jjesse Gomez, President, Dr. Norma Shultzo, imiried Past President, Reverent Ben Varrenburg, Vice Pres.. and Austin School Principal, William David.

Third year Austin Elementary student, Gail Gैonzales, will give her district prize winning speech on the Bicentennial and thirty singing Houstonians from the Houston Llementary School, under the eiprec. tion of Mrs. Frances Fillette, will sing a medley patriotic songs. Children from the Austin School will present Mrs. Ford with a Dicenten nial banner made during their recent celebrationof America's 200th birthday.

Gomez, Schultz and Littleton will motorcade back to the airport with Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Tower where 38 boys and 38 girls from the BonHam Elementary School, will present the "Parade of Presidens". Each child is costumed to represent an American President and First Lady. Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Tower will review the Parade of Presidents from George \& Maratha Washinton to the miniture Gerald \& Betty Ford. Their plane departs for Corpus Christi at approxx. 3:15 P.M.

A bus is availabe to Credentialed Press from the airport arrival through departure. Members fo the press are reminded that they should board this bus promptly as the motorcade leaves as soon as the First Lady is seated in her car.

Harlingen, Texas Public Schools for drop-by, Austin Elementary School

Harlingen is a town of 43,000 with 11,000 students in the public schools. On March 29th during Bicentennial School Week, some 5,000 students marched in a Bicentennial parade. Most of them were in colonial costumes. In San Antonio, a scrapbook was given to the President or someone on the staff about this parade. Some of the contacts in the school system say that some 5,000 letters were written to the President and that only one third grade class received an answer. . A request for the President to appear was regretted. The nature of your involvement is still uncertain, but you may present a certificate to each school commending their Bicentennial participation. The schools are:

Harlingen High School<br>Coakley Jr. High<br>Vernon Jr. High<br>Gay Jr. High<br>Austin Elementary<br>Bonham Elementary<br>Bowie Elementary<br>Crockett Elementary<br>Dishman Elementary<br>Houston Elementary<br>Jefferson Elementary<br>Lamar Elementary<br>Milam Elementary<br>Stuart Elementary<br>Travis Elementary<br>Wilson Elementary<br>Zavala Elementary

Austin is a one through six grade elementary school. The principal's name is Bill Davis. The school as 522 students.
\# \# \#

FYI UPDATE ON HARLINGEN FROM SANDY DRAKE IN BICENTENNIAL OFFICE

2,000 letters were xaxixwe received from school children in Harlingen as result of memo from their supt. asking kids to invite President to costume parade.
a letter of regret was sent to James Thigpen, supt. along with a special presidential message, which sandy says listed all school names.
-0-

## Austin Elementary School Program

Left Side (facing stage) Right Side (facing stage)

1. Shultz (Board Immediate Past President) 1. Rev. Ben Warrenburg (Board Vice-Pres.)
2. Ford
3. Vance Littleton (Superintendent)
4. Gomez (Board President)
5. William David
6. Tower
7. Pledge of Allegiance - Reverend Ben Warrenburg
8. Welcome - Jesse Gomez
9. Introduction - Dr. Norma Shultz
10. Prize Winning Speech - Gail Gonzales, Austin Elementary School 3rd year student - District Winner
11. Medley - Patriotic Songs - Singing Houstonians, Director - Frances Gillette
12. Presentation of Banner - Austin Student ..... (2)
Gail Gonzales Veronica David
13. Presentation of Flowers - Dr. Norma Shultz
14. Comments - Mrs. Betty Ford
15. America the Beautiful - Everyone

SALUTE TO THE STUDENTS

OF THE
HARLINGEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

7:00 p.m. - Invocation - Reverend Ben Warrenburg
Presentation of Colors - H. S. Air Force R.O.T.C.
National Anthem - H. S. Band
Welcome and Introduction - Dr. Norma Shultz (each kid as a pres + his wife)
$\wedge^{\text {Parade of Presidents Bonham Elementary School }}$
First Lady of the United States
America the Beautiful - H. S. Choir
Student Recognition - First Lady ( 25 names)
7:30 p.m. - Finale (Iwo Sima) - Coakley Junior High School
2,000 of the kids have bicentennial clothing
(14) Platform:

First Lady Tom Mason
Dr. Norma Shultz
Rev. Ben Warrenburg
Pat Windham
Johnny Means
Jesse Gomez
David Day
Bill Pietro Joan Cocke
Donna Bonner Arthur Purdy
Vance Littleton
Wayne Labar
Mayor Bob Youker

## Reserved Area - Grandstand:

Families of Platform Guests:
(5) City Commissioners \& wives
(11) Central Office Staff \& Spouses ...... (Sheffield
(1) Harlingen C of C Rep. \& wife (Simpson
(5) Board of Equalization \& wives (Bussman
(1) Harlingen Police Chief \& wife (Forrest
(1) Ray Norton \& wife (Channel 4-TV) (Fitzgerald
(1) Commander Marine Military Acad.\&wife
(1) City Manager \& wife
(1) Charles Feldman \& wife

Press:
(Stone
(Williams
(Jackson
(Longhofer

Dan Henderson \& wife (Valley Morning Star)
Suzie Czeschin \& husband (Valley Citizen)
Channel 4 TV
Channel 5 TV

Dear Parents:
Mrs. Betty Ford, wife of the President of the United States, is coming to Harlingen and will recognize our students for their efforts in our bicentennial school activities at 7:00 p.m., on Tuesday, April 20 at J. Lewis Boggus Stadium. This special event will be approximately thirty minutes long. We would like to request that you bring your child(ren) to the designated area at J. Lewis Boggus Stadium by 6:45 p.m., as noted on the reverse side of this letter. Only elementary studetns, teachers and teacher's aides will be on the football field during the program. Secondary students will be in the center sections of the west stands. Parents may sit in the east stands or on the ends of the west stands and pick up their children immeaiately after the program.

We would like all students who do not have bicentennial costumes should wear red, white or blue clothing.

This is a "once in a lifetime" event for our children in this school district and we would like to make this a memorable occasion for all.

Elementary students must return the following parent permission slip to the classroom teacher in order to participate.

Thank you for your cooperation.

## HARLINGEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Permission is given for
(student's name)
to participate in the special event to be held at J. Lewis Boggus Stadium on Tuesday, Apri1 20, 1976 at 7:00 p.m. I will bring my child to the designated area on the football field by 6:45 p.m.

DETAILS:

1st Aid Station - H.C.I.S.D. Nurses
Field Gates (7) - H.C.I.S.D. Visiting Teachers/Adm. Staff
Lights - H.C.I.S.D. Gerald Haak/HPD Officer
Decoration (Flags) -H.C.I.S.D. Ramiro Canales
Flag (Big) - North goalpost - H.C.I.S.D. G. W. Jackson
Flag Pole Flags (3) - H.C.I.S.D. Ramiro Canales
Platform - H.C.I.S.D. Maintenance
Platform Decoration (Banners/Bicent. Paper/Flags) HCISD G. W. Jacksor
Stage Lights - HCISD Maintenance
Band Chairs (140) \& Plyboard - HCISD Maintenance
Choir Risers - HCISD Maintenance
Parking Gate - HCISD Jesse Longhofer
Crowd Control - HCISD Jesse Longhofer
Parking East Field - HPD Officer
Harlingen Police Dept. - Chief Guy Anderson
Band Director - HCISD Alan Brumley
Choir Director - HCISD - Bob Irby
Emergency Lighting - CPL Larry Hunter
Sound System - Circle Industries/Bob Bishop HCISD/Orren Carney

Color Guards - HCISD Col. Tesla
Banner - Welcome First Lady of the United States
Reserve Seat Area - HCISD G. W. Jackson
Secondary Student Section - HCISD G. W. Jackson


