

THE PROSPECT by Joseph L. Gomez We All Love

Portents For Autumn

Your old peerless prognosticator of weather and climate is ready to make his prediction as far as weather for the upcoming fall and winter. Our old friends, the katydids made their arrival somewhat later this August, so doing the math, I have decided that Mother Nature will deposit her first frost upon us on the evening of September 30, 2006. That should make up, in some measure, for the poor growing weather in spring and early summer.

Nary a wooly bear have I seen to date, so that adds to my theory of a late-arriving and mild winter for us Prospect residents. That kind of news could lead to a slight decrease in oil consumption which is good for us, but bad for the starving oil corporations.

St. Anthony's Parish Picnic

Speaking of September events, Sunday, September 17 is the date of the Annual St. Anthony's Parish Picnic. The cost is just \$5 per individual or \$10 per family and there will be food and activities for all. A full buffet is planned, which will include clams, clam chowder, ziti, meatballs, sausage and peppers, baked chicken, roasted potatoes, salad, and corn on the cob. There will also be soda, coffee and beer. It is requested that you bring your favorite dessert to share with your neighbors. The day will be completed with music and entertainment, so plan to come early and spend the day. Tickets will be on sale after all Masses starting September 3.

More Signs of the Times

Hotchkiss Field is the scene of soccer practice in preparation for the fall soccer season. I have seen high school age boys and girls practicing on the adjoining

field to one where some little tykes were receiving their first exposure to the sport, thanks to some very patient coaches.

Football at Canfield Park is also in full swing now. I don't know about you, but I think the very best tomatoes are those produced in September. They have been growing the longest and the late varieties, which are superior to the early ones, seem to contain the best of nature's goodness. It seems that gone are the days when families used to "put up" jars of all the gardens' produce. People are just too busy to do that anymore, what with school and outside activities, etc. Some circumstances are present which may lead to a return to former times. The oil crisis has led to a dramatic rise in the cost of fruit and produce at the supermarket level and may trigger a return to the old canning jar again.

Time to get out the sweat-shirts and light jackets - it won't be long until their presence is most welcome, what with the early evenings these days.

On another subject, how many of you can remember when Walter Houston sang "September Song?" Who can tell me what Broadway play starred Mr. Houston and featured that song? The answer next month.

Remember, if you know the answer to that question, or just want to tell me about something else, call me at 758-3182, fax a note to 758-7502 or email jgomez04@snet.net
[Joseph L. Gomez is a poet, freelance writer, and the author of Sarah Ann, The Story of a Pioneer Woman.]



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