

## Pressley Honored By Jaycees



**Lib Stewart**

WASHINGTON, D.C.-This week Arlene Barrett and I have been in Washington, D.C. attending the 7th American Legion Auxiliary Awareness Assembly which has included legislative briefings, seminars on Hospice care, the American Indians, the aging citizen and social security, and AIDS-to name a few of the topics covered during a busy, four day meeting.

A regular feature of the Assembly is a trip to Arlington National Cemetery to honor our departed veterans and place a wreath at the Tomb of the unknown. Another feature is Capitol Hill, representing four million members, veterans and their families which total nearly one half of the nation's population.

Working with the Public Relations office for the second year gave me a chance to work with the Washington Press Corps which covered President Ronald Reagan's visit to the Auxiliary and Legion on Monday and the PR office was about like the Herald on Pressday.

Monday was a busy newspaper in the PR office, not only with the President's visit, but with the announcement of the Auxiliary's Public Spirit Award which went this year to Midland, Texas Fire Chief James L. Roberts and the citizens of that West Texas oil town for their heroic rescue of little Jessica McClure from an abandoned water well on Oct. 16, 1987. Since the Auxiliary does so much work in the area of children and youth, it was fitting that the award should be given to a courageous act in which a young life was saved.

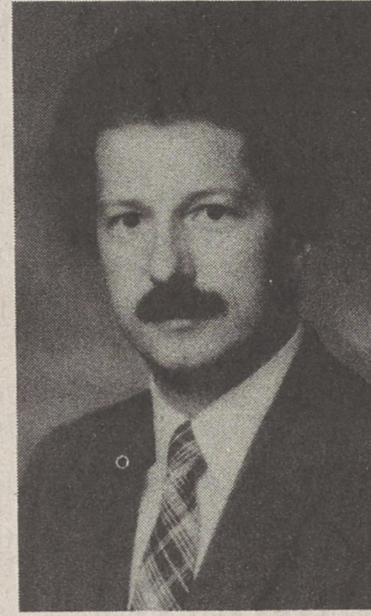
Hundreds of workers donated everything from their time to their oil field equipment during an emotionally-wrenching rescue effort that took 58½ hours to free an 18-month old girl after she tumbled into a well 22 feet under the ground. Restaurants send out food and neighbors made sandwiches and coffee for workers and reporters. When Jessica McClure was freed a cacophony of car horns and firecrackers could be heard throughout the town of 100,000. The nation watched as an extraordinary drama came to a joyous conclusion on Oct. 16, 1987.

William "Bill" O. Pressley, Jr. was named "Outstanding Young American" by the South Carolina Jaycees during the ceremonies held at the Sheraton Northwest in Columbia, South Carolina on Saturday, February 27, at 8:30 p.m. The award, which is present annually to three state residents between the ages of 21 and 40, is based upon the individual's community service. Senator Ernest Hollings and Lieutenant Governor Nick Theodore are past recipients of this prestigious award.

A resident of Spartanburg, South Carolina, he is presently a partner with the law firm of Perrin, Perrin, Mann and Patterson.

A graduate of the University of South Carolina with a Business Management and Economics degree, he was named to the National Business Honor Society, Beta Gamma Sigma and Phi Beta Kappa Fraternity. He continued to illustrate his talents while attending law school at the University of South Carolina School of Law where he was a member of the Order of Wig and Robe and the Research Editor for the South Carolina Law Review prior to graduation in 1977.

Pressley is a member of the American Bar Association, the South Carolina Bar Association and presently fills the Secretary/Treasurer's position with the Spartanburg County Bar Association. To further promote his profes-



**BILL PRESLEY, JR.**

sion he served as an instructor for the Continuin legal Education Seminar entitled "Tax Law For The General Practitioner" at the U.S.C. School of Law in 1985.

An active supporter of his community, Pressley has served as Legal Counsel for the Columbia(1978-79), Spartanburg(1983-84) and South Carolina Jaycees(1984-85). He served on the Columbia Jaycees Board of Directors holds the President's position at the Spartanburg Jaycee Chapter. Recognizing his efforts, in 1980 he was named "Jaycee of the Year" in Columbia, South Carolina and received the Spartanburg County "Distinguished Service Award" this past year.

Pressley continues to seek avenues to help his

fellowman as is illustrated with his membership in the Democratic Party Executive Committee from 1984-88. He served as a Democratic Party Platform Committee member in 1986 and as Co-Chairman of the Spartanburg County "Get Out The Vote" for Liz Patterson for Congress in 1986.

A 1986 graduate of the Spartanburg Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Spartanburg Program, Bill presently serves on the Board of Regents for that group and was formerly a member of the Board of Directors. He has also served on the Board of Directors for the Spartanburg Central Association.

A Cherokee County native, Pressley is the son of Cherokee County residents Verna And Odell Pressley. He was a 1970 graduate of Blacksburg Centralized High School where he finished eighth in his class of 92. While

at Blacksburg High, Bill served as President of the Beta Club and Assistant Editor of the school's newspaper, the Centralian.

Prior to receiving this outstanding award, Bill competed against candidates submitted from the various Jaycee chapters throughout the state. Individuals chosen for these awards are selected from the local communities at large and are not required to be Jaycee members. In fact, it is extremely rare for a Jaycee member to receive this high honor.

Bill Pressley has been an active member of the Spartanburg community and a strong supporter of this state. He consistently strives to work for the betterment of all mankind as is recognized by his countless hours of community service. He is a very deserving recipient of the "Outstanding Young American" award.

### THE CLASS OF 1958 Is Planning A THIRTY YEAR CLASS REUNION

If anyone can help us locate the following people, please call Becky Cook 739-3950.

Tommy Lewis Boyd  
Franklin A. Lail  
James "Jimmy" Waters  
Earl C. Barnes

Melta L. Wright  
Carol Jackson  
Hannah "Molly" Cobb

## Moss DAR Essay Winner

Courtney Denise Moss, West School fifth grader, was first place winner at West Schol in the recent history essay contest sponsored by Colonel Frederick Hambricht Chapter Daughters of American Revolution.

Courtney's prize-winning essay on "The U.S. Constitu-

tion Roads to Ratification" follows:

Every civilized nation and every state in the union is controlled by a set of fundamental laws and principles known as a constitution. Almost every formal club or organization is also governed by a constitution. In the

United States all of the original thirteenn colonies drew up written state constitutions. This happened during the Revolutionary War period. Since then, every territory that applied for statehood had to submit its proposed constitution to Congress for approval. Delegates to the Constitutional convention relied greatly on their past experiences as they worked to create a new government.

About the time of the Revolutionary War, several American states established a constitutional government. The delegates often disagreed on details but they were united and wanted their new government to be strong enough to rule the nation. They also wanted the government to respect the liberties for the states and of the people.

Less than three months after the constitution was signed, Delaware became the first state to ratify it. Ratify means to sanction officially or to make valid. New Hampshire was the ninth state to ratify which put the Constitu-

tion into effect on June 21, 1788. The founding fathers could not be sure that the Constitution would be accepted by everyone in general until the states of New York and Virginia, which were very important states, had ratified it. Organized opposition to the Constitution which was very powerful had developed in New York and Virginia as well as in other states. Such men as Patrick Henry spoke out against ratification.

Critics of the ratification of the Constitution objected because a bill of rights had not been included. They also complained that the president had too much independence and that the state was too much aristocratic. They also believed Congress had too much power and that the national government had too much authority. Friends of the Constitution, known as federalists, began advertising their support for ratification. The people against ratification were developed into the first American political parties. On June 25, 1788 Virginia ratified the Constitution. On July 26, New York did the same. Early in January, 1789, all the ratifying states except New York selected presidential electors in their legislatures. On February 4, these electors named George Washington as the first president of the United States. On March 4, the first congress met in New York City. On April 30, Washington was inaugurated. North Carolina and Rhode Island refused to approve the Constitution until Congress agreed to add a bill of rights.

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