

# HISTORY & FOLKLORE



DeANN LESTER



DEBORA SUE CAMPBELL



KIMBERLY ANN HICKMAN



TAMMY ROCHELLE LEONARD

From Liberty Gazette, Thursday, May 4, 1972 –  
 'OUR LITTLE MISS' IS DeANN LESTER

The Big Thicket's "Ideal Miss" and "Our Little Miss" combined pageants presented "Up, Up, and Away" April 28, 1972, at West Hardin County School Auditorium.

Miss DeAnn Lester, 10, won first place in the "Our Little Miss" division. She is the daughter of Mrs. Clo Nell Lester of Liberty.

Little Miss Kimberly Ann Hickman, five-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cordell Hickman of Batson, won the "Miss LaPetite" crown. She was sponsored by Johnston's Grocery of Hull. Tammy Rochelle Leonard, 6, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clayborn Leonard of Liberty, was second runner-up to "Miss LaPetite." She was sponsored by Gossett's Liberty Drug of Liberty.

Miss Debora Sue Campbell, 10, sponsored by Leonard's Mobil Station of Liberty, was second runner-up in "Our Little Miss" division. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G.C. Campbell of Liberty.

DeAnn and Kimberly Ann will go to Waco June 19, where they will compete for the Miss Texas titles of "Our Little Miss" and "Miss LaPetite." The contest will be held at Baylor University.

From The Liberty Gazette, Thursday, May 18, 1972 –

## New Police Chief Lived Most of His Life Here in Liberty

Charles Leslie Wallace, 24-year-old Beaumont policeman of three years, has been named Liberty Police Chief. Born in Hull, Mr. Wallace has lived most of his life in Liberty.

Appointed at the May 9 city council meeting, Wallace began duties this week as chief administrator. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Edmond Fregia, he is a 1964 graduate of Liberty High School, receiving a degree in Business Administration from Lamar University. Working with the Beaumont Police Department during college, Wallace served as a training officer before coming back to his hometown.

"I became involved in police work during school. The job involves continually helping people and working with the public – the people that need to be helped," explained the youthful administrator.

"I've always wanted to come back to my hometown," said Wallace. "I like it here and the opportunity for this job presented itself. I'd like to stay."

Wallace plans an open door policy between police and citizens. "I want to stress especially police-

community relations work in the community," explained the former hairdresser at Martrell's Beauty Salon in Liberty and in Beaumont. "I'm planning new programs – drug education programs in the schools and community in general, for example. Also, safety programs for the younger children."

Members of the Church of Christ, Wallace

and his wife Jan have one son, Charles Leslie Jr., two years old.

In a time of great controversy over the police role in society, Wallace feels that the accusation of "police brutality" is "unfounded."

"Policemen," stated Wallace, "cannot do their job unless they have the support of the community. Policemen are servants of

the public. They have a rough job. Like everything else, the police department is continually changing and the officers have to stay on top."

In terms of education, Wallace believes that it is definitely an asset to the policeman.

"The major thing is, of course, in-service training, but police face a broad variety of problems

and education gives them a better view of the total society."

The new police chief anticipates no problems in his new job but if they occur said he would "work day and night to try to work them out."

"I want the Liberty Police Department to offer complete, diversified police service," said Wallace. "A small force is

confronted with the same problems the larger cities have and we should be as qualified to handle situations as the larger departments are."

Wallace also expressed his hope to work with inner agencies of the police force and the desire to "serve the community to the best of my ability" with "impartial treatment of persons – no bias or prejudice."



From Illustrated Press of Liberty County, Thursday, April 18, 1963 –

Webb Farish's home in Dayton has his friends worried. He works for Tretolite, so it might go tough with him if his boss saw this Visco barrel sitting by his driveway – Visco is a hated competitor. Don't worry, Webb, we'll do our best to keep it hushed up.

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