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Woman Of The Week

Pam Kugel Creates A Climate Of Learning

By DOLORES IRVIN

Pam Kugel, Wadsworth Elementary's media specialist, will represent DeKalb County in the state Media Festival to be held later in the spring.

Dr. John Purcell of the State Media Division said the winning state festival competitor will be entered in the national competition.

Mrs. Kugel, who is in her third year's work at Wadsworth, says, "I try to foster a climate to create learning here. We try to encourage children to be creative."

"We have a media squad made up of 10 students, who change every quarter. In addition to their feeling a little superlative for their choice, they learn the library."

Mrs. Kugel said they have visitors every day to their writing center, at Wadsworth. "All fifth grade students from the county come here, eventually. I think that makes the work worthwhile."

She works together with a lead teacher, and one of the parents, Mrs. Valerie Turner, is a part-time media clerk.

"I MAKE this a pleasant place to draw the students, she said. "Usually we have some sort of simple contest such as identifying

a bowl of skinned turkey bones, or maybe estimating how many beans are in a jar.

"Contests, Media and Reading Clubs, these are the three elements I would hope would create a learning interest. If it does not then I'll try something else."

Mrs. Kugel believes in rewards rather than penalty, "Such as rewarding students who read at least a book a quarter."

Wadsworth has an active media committee of ten people. This is a cross section of Wadsworth Teachers, P.T.A. and parents.

Frank Winstead, DeKalb County's media supervisor, gives Mrs. Kugel high praise for her Media Center work and its contribution to the students and to the county's Department of Education.

Another service Mrs. Kugel is proud of is a radio show from station WADS, which she puts on.

She begins every school day with a WADS radio program. "The support of my administration is great! Any activity, they support us. Our principal, Frank Duncan, Jr. is so very helpful in helping the students and faculty."

The program of "what they do" is one in which Mrs. Kugel invites well-known personalities to the

school and the students concentrate on them for a week. Also, she sponsors computer literacy — when kindergarten to seventh grade students have access to the computer.

MRS. KUGEL'S husband Bill and their two sons, Will, 12 and Arthur, eight, all had a hand in building an attractive Snoopy's house as the receptacle for returning library books. Snoopy is reclining on top with his favorite book.

The Kugels are "old time Decaturians." Mrs. Kugel was Pam McFarland before her marriage to Bill. She was born in California but moved to Decatur when she was a baby. Bill was born in Chicago and moved to Decatur when he was six years old.

She recalls they were sweethearts in Decatur High School. She is also a graduate of LaGrange College and has a master's degree in library science from Atlanta University. Pam doesn't recall when she first wanted to be a librarian, but she worked in the school library and in Decatur City Schools as a media clerk.

They are active with Boy Scouts. She is a den mother of Cub Scouts Den 2, Pack 175. They all attend Decatur First Methodist Church.



Media Specialist Pam Kugel



**THE
SMILE
LINE**

by Dr. Michael Shaffer

Dear Dr. Mike, I
quite often when I
chew meat or popcorn,
some gets caught
between my teeth. What can I do?
Jan



Granny Storyteller

Wadsworth School's Granny Storyteller, alias Reading Specialist Dorothy Harmon, right, works with Adrienne Farmer, left, as she reads her ending version of an open-ended story. The two appeared on a local television program, produced by Media Specialist Pam Kugel, which features Granny Storyteller each week. The W.A.D.S. Television Show allows the DeKalb students and teachers to increase awareness on issues from the local school news to the perfection of a play practiced in the classroom.

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