

University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

**ScholarWorks @ UTRGV**

---

Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers -  
Newsletters

Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers

---

12-24-1981

## **Newsletter - 1981-12-24**

E. De la Garza

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.utrgv.edu/kikadelagarzanews>



Part of the [State and Local Government Law Commons](#)

---

### **Recommended Citation**

Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers - Newsletters, UTRGV Digital Library, The University of Texas – Rio Grande Valley

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers at ScholarWorks @ UTRGV. It has been accepted for inclusion in Kika de la Garza Congressional Papers - Newsletters by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks @ UTRGV. For more information, please contact [justin.white@utrgv.edu](mailto:justin.white@utrgv.edu), [william.flores01@utrgv.edu](mailto:william.flores01@utrgv.edu).

# NEWSLETTER

97-827

December 24, 1981

Washington, D.C.

TIS THE SEASON. This year your Congressman and his staff decided to go all out for Christmas. Mrs. de la Garza and I served up a traditional Texas barbecue at our annual office Christmas party, complete with jalapenos, potatoes, chili con queso, tortilla chips, coleslaw and baked beans.

Barbecue beef brisket is one of my favorite recipes, and since many staff members and guests came back for seconds, I can safely say that my reputation as a chef remains intact. A memorable evening was topped off by cheesecake and Mrs. de la Garza's capuccino and the opening of gifts.

This Christmas season our office also decided to enter the office decorating contest sponsored by the weekly Capitol Hill newspaper Roll Call. My "elves" were busy for hours one afternoon decking the outside of my office at 1434 Longworth House Office building with huge paper poinsettias, evergreens, and Christmas lights.

The colorful poinsettias remind me of those so prevalent in the Valley at this time of year. One Valley city --- Mission --- declared the week of December 7-13 as Poinsettia Week.

Inside the office we hung a gigantic wreath made of magnolia leaves and set up an all white Christmas tree trimmed with white lights and tiny painted clay birds from Mexico.

But our efforts paled in comparison with the decoration Mother Nature gave Washington last week --- the first snowfall of the season. Our first snowfall is always a special event, cherished by schoolchildren unable to attend classes and somewhat dreaded by motorists. At night, from the glistening dome of the Capitol to the snow-blanketed lawn of the White House, the city takes on a fairylike appearance. Weather forecasters say we're due for a lot of snow this year --- this winter is predicted to be one of the coldest in a long time.

\* \* \*

KIKA DE LA GARZA HIGHWAY. Recently Hidalgo County Judge Ramiro Guerra informed me that the Commissioners Court had passed a resolution naming that portion of FM 1425 located in Hidalgo County as the "Kika de la Garza Highway."

The action came after 248 residents of Weslaco and Mercedes sent a petition to the Commissioners Court.

The residents noted my service to the 15th District since 1965, and praised my efforts in obtaining a sugar quota and establishing the sugar mill in the area.

The road begins at Expressway 83 in the eastern portion of Hidalgo County and cuts through part of Cameron County before ending in Willacy County.

It is with great pride that I express my gratitude to all of the friends responsible for this recognition. It isn't often that such an honor is bestowed upon a person during his lifetime.

\* \* \*

MORTGAGE DEDUCTION. My name has been included on a list of cosponsors of House Concurrent Resolution 214, which urges that no limit be placed on the federal income tax deduction for interest paid on a residential mortgage.

There has been talk of such a limit and I strongly oppose it. It has the potential of inflicting terrible damage on an already beleaguered housing industry. With unemployment in construction the highest it has been in a long time because people can't afford to buy homes due to high interest rates, we cannot afford to let the housing industry deteriorate further. And we cannot afford to shatter the American dream of being able to own a home.

\* \* \*

The de la Garza family wishes you and yours the merriest of Christmases.

\* \* \*

VISITORS FROM HOME THIS WEEK WERE: Mr. Ralph Klefisch of McAllen and daughter Kathy, now residing in Austin.

\* \* \*