

FCHM FALL NEWS

DONATIONS & SPONSORSHIPS can now be made online through our website!

SEPTEMBER 2021



FREESTONE COUNTY
HISTORICAL MUSEUM

P.O. Box 524
302 E. Main
Fairfield, Texas 75840
903-389-3738

HOURS: Wed, Fri, Sat
10 am to 5 pm



OLD JAIL CELEBRATES 140 YEARS!

1881-2021

OPEN HOUSE at OLD JAIL OCTOBER 2

The Freestone County Historical Museum Board would like to welcome everyone to OPEN HOUSE on October 2nd, 11:00 am to noon. Admission will be free all day, with a special ribbon cutting ceremony to be held at 11:00 am on the museum grounds. This year is also the celebration of the building's 140th anniversary.

So much has happened since our January newsletter and we have been so very busy putting the finishing touches on our displays. The reproduction jail cells have been installed; and the 1914 jail gallows trap door and hanging hook have been installed. Furnishings have been moved in; including the original jail bathtub on wheels and the 1850s Peters and Craig square grand piano from the Marcus Seeley family. Seeley was once a deputy sheriff. A hospital room has been set up next to the sheriff's office with a sick bed and many local medical artifacts.

A photo display of former sheriffs is being placed in the sheriff's office; as well as several original jail artifacts, including the sheriff's desk from the early 1900s! A photo collection of W.R. Boyd, Jr. is now on display and includes a detailed history of the W.R. Boyd Prison Unit.

The old McIlveen Family china hutch from the late 1800s was repaired and many of the old china pieces have been brought down from the archival storage area to once again be enjoyed.

Old Glory is now proudly flying over the old jail. Much thanks go to Brad and Diane Pullin for supplying the U.S. flag and pole light and to Marvin Mullen for installing them.



Ed Jackson and his Weekend Movers crew installed the 1914 gallows trap door, as well as, moved all the other large items into the jail.



Jail Cell reproductions created
by Iron Hill Services of Whitehouse, TX

Nancy Rula Wins Again

Congratulations are in order to Nancy Rula. Her new book "The Year of 1890 in Freestone County" has been accepted into the NSDAR National Library, an honor that few books receive. She also was the recent recipient of the DAR's Historic Preservation Recognition Award. I can think of no one in Freestone County who would qualify for this award more than Mrs. Rula. She has worked tirelessly for as long as can be remembered with either the Freestone County Genealogical Society or the Freestone County Historical Museum in preserving Freestone County History and helping people research their family genealogy. She donates all proceeds from her books. Nancy is truly deserving of this award and so much more.



IRIS THEATER POPCORN POPPER and WIENER COOKER

The museum board is so very excited to be able to exhibit The Iras - Iris (also Fair) Theater popcorn popper, wiener cooker, and chili propane burner in the Bass Wing.

The items were donated by Mary and Gordon Small. The old theater was located where the Fairfield Masonic Lodge meets. It has quite the history. Stop by and come relive the old days. You can almost smell that corn popping. It is in perfect working condition.

A complete history is on display as well. Also much thanks to Marvin Mullen for building a table for the cookers.



Volunteers are the GREATEST!!!!

Freestone County has some of the most wonderful volunteers EVER!

Kudos go out to the Calvary Baptist Youth for helping do some clean up on the grounds of the museum complex. They worked tirelessly scrubbing windows, cars, benches, porches, and moving a large pile of broken brick chunks.

Freestone County Historical Commission News

The FCHC meets the 1st Tuesday of every quarter, The next meeting will be Oct. 5, at 7:00 pm at the Teague Hotel.

FREESTONE COUNTY HISTORICAL BOARD

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Linda Mullen - President | Don Awalt |
| Brad Pullin - Vice President | Diane Pullin |
| Nancy Rula - Secretary | Sherrie Minze |
| Leslie Tate -Treasurer | Muriel Morton |
| Ralph Billings - Consultant | |
| Patricia Pratt - Curator | |

EMAIL: freestonecomuseum@windstream.net

www.freestonecomuseum.com



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Become a FREESTONE FRIEND today by giving a generous tax deductible gift!

The FCHM Board is pleased to announce a sponsorship program called **FREESTONE FRIENDS**. The museum depends on your local support, along with the city and county support, to keep the doors open. It is very expensive to maintain eight buildings. Yes, with the enclosing of the fire house building, we now have eight buildings on our campus.

Our patrons are what make the Freestone County Museum one of the better small town museums in existence; not just in Texas, but across the nation. How long has it been since you stopped by for a visit or brought your friends and family to come see your local county treasure? They will be amazed. Our visitors make it all worthwhile.

Your sponsorship is important to maintain YOUR LOCAL museum!

- PIONEER Level: \$15 donation**
—earns one individual free admission to the museum for 1 year, plus newsletter subscription
- KEECHI Level: \$25 donation**
—earns you and your family free admission to the museum for 1 year, plus newsletter subscription
- TEHUACANA Level: \$100 donation**
—all of the above plus a free book: *Two Stars in the Southern Sky*
- TRINITY Level: \$200 donation/ individual or corporate**
—all of the above plus a free book: *Freestone County History Volume II*
(Spot on the FCHM Website Sponsors page for corporate donation)
- W.L. MOODY Level: \$500 corporate donation**
—earns free admission, newsletter, and FCHM afghan and a spot on the FCHM Website Sponsors page
- VALVERDE Level: \$1000 corporate donation**
—earns free admission, newsletter, and FCHM afghan and a spot on the FCHM Website Sponsors page

MEMORIALS: A gift to the museum given in lieu of flowers is a gift that lives forever. Cards will be sent announcing your gift. Given in memory of: _____

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1.13.2021

Thank you so very much for being a FREESTONE FRIEND!



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ORDER SHEET: From our Museum Library and Gift Shop

QUANTITY	ITEM	PRICE	S & H	TOTAL
_____	The Year of 1890 in Freestone County By Nancy Rula	\$65.00	\$10.00	_____
_____	Freestone Past And Present By J. R. "Sonny" Sessions, Jr.	\$75.00	\$10.00	_____
_____	Freestone County Historical Museum Celebrates 50 Years And Beyond, By Linda Mullen	\$15.00	\$5.00	_____
_____	"The Boll Weevil" Railroad Book Teague Chronicle by Nancy Rula	\$25.00	\$5.00	_____
_____	Fairfield Recorder Obits 1900-1905 Book 1 by Nancy Rula	\$20.00	\$5.00	_____
_____	Fairfield Recorder Obits 1906-1910 Book 2 by Nancy Rula	\$25.00	\$5.00	_____
_____	Freestone County History Book-Vol 1	\$90.00	\$10.00	_____
_____	Freestone County History Book-Vol 2	\$35.00	\$10.00	_____
_____	Two Stars in the Southern Sky: General John Gregg, CSA & Mollie by Davis Carter	\$25.00	\$5.00	_____
_____	Fryers Delight by Barbara (Fryer) Price	\$25.00	\$5.00	_____
_____	Queen of the Trinity Star by B. Price	\$15.00	\$5.00	_____
_____	The Kirvin Centennial (1906-2006) (only a few copies left)	\$10.00	\$5.00	_____
_____	The History of Streetman (1906-2006) (checks made out to Streetman Historical Society, Inc.)	\$45.00	\$5.00	_____
_____	Freestone County Afghan	\$50.00	\$8.00	_____

GRAND TOTAL _____

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