

JCHC JOURNAL

JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION VOLUME 2020, ISSUE 3

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Dear Members,

May is Preservation Month. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the National Trust has made their campaign a virtual experience. Read more about their campaign in this issue of our newsletter. Thanks to modern technology we are able to continue to learn and participate in projects that aim to preserve our history, all while staying safe at home.

Thank you to our members for your time and service.

Theresa Goodness, JCHC Chair



Nation Trust for Historic Preservation launches Virtual Preservation Month Campaign
Photo Credit: [Saving Places website](#)

VOLUME 2020, ISSUE 3

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MAY, 2020

Special points of interest:

- * Jefferson County Fast Facts
- * Courthouse Mini-Museum Exhibit
- * Area Museum Online Resources

JEFFERSON COUNTY FAST FACTS

3/8/1920

Date Commissioner's Court ordered Beaumont Shingle and Lumber Company to repair the tram road crossing at Beaumont-Cheek road within ten days or the tracks would be removed by the Commissioner of Pct. 4, W.A. Coward.

12/08/1941

Date of Order by Commissioner's Court to change the name of the office of County Attorney to Criminal District Attorney pursuant to a petition by the incumbent, Melvin Combs.

7,500

Number of miles of Texas state highways identified in 1941 to be included in the national network of military routes vital to the national defense during WWII. Texas had twice as much of the network as any other state except California.

VIRTUAL PRESERVATION MONTH

The National Trust for the Preservation of Historic Places is celebrating the month of May as Virtual Preservation Month. To receive a daily email or text reminder to unlock a piece of history every day be sure to sign up on their [web-site](#). To tour a collection of historic places, including the Villa Finale, in San Antonio, visit their historic sites page:

<https://savingplaces.org/historic-sites#.XrBBgTaWyUm>

The goal of The National Trust's Women's History Project is to find 1,000 places where women have left their mark in America.

Credit: <https://savingplaces.org/where-women-made-history#.XrFlrjaWyUk>



UPCOMING JCHC MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS IN 2020

Meetings to be held at Noon at the Jefferson County Courthouse, 1149 Pearl Street, 3rd Floor, Beaumont, TX 77701 in the JCHC Conference Room. (All meetings subject to cancellation under state and federal COVID-19 guidelines.)

- July 15, 2020
- September 16, 2020
- November 18, 2020

VOLUNTEER HOURS AND MEMBERSHIP

Any work in the preservation or promotion of Jefferson County History may be counted toward your volunteer hours. JCHC meetings and travel time to and from meetings also count as volunteer hours. Members are reminded that at least 50 hours of volunteer work per year is required of each member. Also with the number of hours, JCHC

needs a general description of work performed, for example: 3 Hours – Marker Survey. If you have any questions, please call the office at 409-835-8701 or contact Linda via email at histcomm@co.jefferson.tx.us

PRESERVATION PARTNERS

Beaumont Heritage Society
 Beaumont Landmark Commission
 Port Arthur Landmark Commission
 Texas Historical Foundation
 Beaumont Main Street
 Museum of the Gulf Coast
 Tyrrell Historical Library

POSTAL STAMPS AND SPECIAL STAMPS COMMEMORATING TEXAS AND JEFFERSON COUNTY HISTORY



JCHC member, Les McMahan, provided these images of envelopes in his collection which have postage stamps and/or special stamps commemorating both Texas and Jefferson County history.

Texas Centennial cover with 1936 Texas statehood stamp and special stamp applied at the South Texas State Fair and showing Lena Runnels 100-year old cattle brand.

Photo Credit: Leslie McMahan

First airmail flight out of Beaumont on inaugural run from Houston to New Orleans, January 23, 1929.
Photo Credit: Leslie McMahan



Special stamp honors inauguration of jet airmail service from the Beaumont-Port Arthur Airport on October 1, 1968.

Photo Credit: Leslie McMahan



CHARLTON HIGH SCHOOL

EXCERPTS FROM 1923 ANNUAL, *THE RICE SHOCK*

JCHC member, Lynn Simon, who has been conducting research into the history of African-American schools in Beaumont, provided the following excerpts from the 1923 Annual for Charlton High School, *The Rice Shock*.

THE RICE SHOCK



THE RICE SHOCK

The Faculty

TOP ROW:

MISS E. H. LANIER
Domestic Science

MR. A. L. PRICE
Science

MRS. V. B. VALLIER
History

MISS MARY STARK
Mathematics

MRS. C. L. SMITH
History

CENTER ROW:

MRS. M. C. SEYMOUR
English

PROF. T. J. CHARLTON
Principal

MISS THEOBYRDA BOYD
Mathematics

BOTTOM ROW:

MR. W. W. McCARTER
Science

MRS. MARY WILLIAMS
English

CONTINUED CHARLTON HIGH SCHOOL
EXCERPTS FROM 1923 ANNUAL, *THE RICE SHOCK*

THE RICE SHOCK



COACH A. L. PRICE

“Coach”

The success of the athletic phase of work in C. H. S. is due to Coach Price, who succeeded our ex-coach, James Blanchette. His is a system not of words, but of action. He illustrates the points by good hard words on his part, and while never seen frowning always takes the work at hand seriously. The effort he put forth in having a winning team was a success. His method of coaching has won much fame among his boys. The fair test of his ability has shown us that he is worthy of being a coach. The key of success lies in him. This being his first year as coach, he has proven to us that his experience is great, and every day in every way he is getting better and better. If he were to leave this year his name would be long remembered, but he will be back next year to turn out a team that will take the state championship.

THE RICE SHOCK



BASKETBALL SQUAD

AREA MUSEUM UPCOMING EVENTS

Museum of the Gulf Coast

Check out photos and descriptions of some of the 35,000 items in the museum's collections at the link below.

Credit: [Museum of the Gulf Coast website](#)



Museum of the Gulf Coast

Photo Credit: [museumofthegulfcoast.org](#)



Photo Credit: Spindletop Gladys City Boomtown Museum website

Spindletop Gladys City Boomtown

Wildcatter Gazette

Check out past issues of the Wildcatter Gazette at the link below

Credit: [Spindletop Gladys City Boomtown Museum website](#)

McFaddin-Ward House Museum

Viewpoints Newsletter

Viewpoints is an informative quarterly newsletter highlighting what's happening at the museum as well as providing themed historical interpretation.

Check out current and past issues at the link below.

Credit: [McFaddin-Ward House Museum](#)



McFaddin-Ward House Museum

Photo Credit: [McFaddin-Ward House Museum website](#)

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Linda McMahan, Coordinator



*To preserve and
promote history within
the County.*

We're on the web!
[http://co.jefferson.tx.us/
Historical_Commission/](http://co.jefferson.tx.us/Historical_Commission/)

Jefferson County Historical Commission

Executive Board 2019 - 2020

Chairman, Theresa Goodness

1st Vice-Chairman, Bruce A. Hamilton

2nd Vice-Chairman, Les McMahan

Treasurer, Linda McMahan

Secretary, Jen Trenbeath

**JCHC MINI-MUSEUM
"FOREST PARK HIGH SCHOOL"**



The Jefferson County Historical Commission is proud to announce its latest exhibit, "Forest Park High School," housed in the Mini-Museum located on the first floor of the Jefferson County Courthouse. The exhibit contains a sampling of the rich history of Beaumont's Forest Park High School Trojans. The exhibit includes such items as Trojan football programs, annuals, pictures and news articles. We are thankful for JCHC member Brenda Jackson for putting this exhibit together. The Mini-Museum hours are Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM through 5:00 PM. The exhibit will be on display until further notice.

Forest Park High School Memorabilia Exhibit in Courthouse Mini-museum
Photo Credit: Linda McMahan

