

FRISCO HERITAGE TIMES

Heritage Association of Frisco

3/09/2021

Edition 3, Volume 3

Researching, Preserving, and Sharing Frisco's Rich History

YES VIRGINIA, THERE IS A SPRING

Just like in the iconic letter from a skeptical 8-year-old to the Sun Newspaper back in 1897 questioning if there really is a Santa Claus, you may be doubting whether Spring is ever going to make an appearance here in Frisco, TX.

Fear not, dear readers! Just as Virginia's suspicions were assuaged by a quick witted (and likely kind-hearted) reporter, you too can rest assured that your hopes for hyacinths and hollyhocks surviving the wretched winter storms of February will soon be fulfilled.

In this issue of the Frisco Heritage Times, we are celebrating Spring with its connections to all things outdoors. We will be peeking in on the process of how Parks and Trails get their names here in Frisco and how you can participate in that process. We will also share some history of Frisco parks as well as announcing two of our newest Park names—both honoring the lives and contributions of some very special residents.

This month we highlight an important and long-term partnership between the Heritage Association of Frisco and the Frisco Garden Club. Over the years, the relationship between these two organizations in Frisco has been productive, practical, and just plain fun.



Photo Source: Frisco Garden Club Website
<https://www.friscogardenclub.org/>

A quick bit of trivia for you and a tie-in to our favorite Centenarian Bob Warren—his mother, Mrs. Roy Warren (Esther) was the first Frisco Garden Club President serving from 1932-1933.

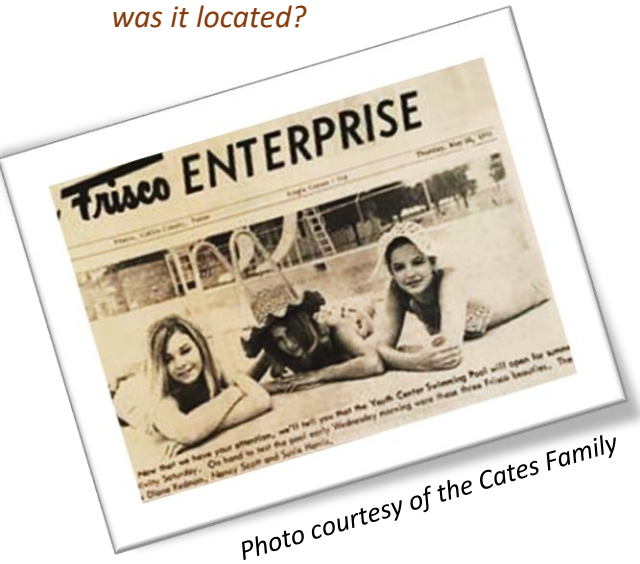
One of the many projects around Frisco that the Garden Club supports is the landscaping in Heritage Village. The flower beds and herb garden around the Crozier-Sickles House (seen left) were designed in partnership with the Garden Club and they maintain them for us. They do a beautiful job updating the landscape and keeping it fresh for our visitors.

The Frisco Garden Club has also been an important partner with other historical projects around town, including their beautification support of Bi-Centennial Park off McKinney Road. After the Heritage Association relocated the Frisco Railroad Caboose from the park, the Garden Club brought in the Homer E. Carter, Sr. vintage tractor in its place where it continues to anchor the park's entrance today.

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WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Bacchus, Boyd, Duncan, Foncine, Gallegos, Grant, McCallum, Newman, Phillips, Simpson, and Warren. What do these names have in common? If you guessed that they are all names given to local parks or plazas, you would be right! Next question on today's quiz is: Long before any of these Frisco families and leaders were immortalized in plaques and playgrounds, Frisco residents relaxed in their very first dedicated park. *What was the name of the park and where was it located?*



If you read last year's July edition of the Frisco Heritage Times, you might recall the great article Donna Anderson wrote about the Community Youth Center—Frisco's first official park. The community pool opened first in 1956 after local leaders collaborated to raise funds to create a safe space for local youth to hang out and "*stay out of trouble,*" (or so I've been told). The following year tennis courts were added and eventually an activity building was erected on the property with the baseball fields completing the overall park setting. When the park was dedicated in 1960, the entire July 28th edition of the Frisco Enterprise reflected page after page of community pride and support for the park.

Who do you recognize in this photo from May 28, 1970 announcing the opening of the Community Center Pool?

The Community Pool and Youth Center served as a hotspot of activity throughout the year, with frequent movie nights, dances, parties, and the occasional beauty contest. By 1995 when my family and I arrived in Frisco, the pool was still our favorite summertime spot!

George Mays, pictured right, was one of the first life-guards at the pool in 1957.



Photo Courtesy of Angela Mays Haley



This marriage of art and play goes all the way back to the original Youth Center itself. The exterior west wall of the building showcased a rock mosaic created by artist Perry Nichols of Dallas. Rocks were sent to Frisco from Saudi Arabia, Israel, Canary Islands, Italy, and Hong Kong. But the "mosaic was lost due to weather and people seeking the beautiful stones for themselves."

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PRESERVING FRISCO'S HISTORY... ONE PARK AT A TIME

As you drive by all those cool parks around town, have you ever wondered how they get their names? Some names might be pretty obvious like B.F. Phillips Park located in the southwest corner of Frisco—named after the rancher who owned the property where the Phillips Ranch community sits today. According to Frisco, The First One-Hundred Years, the 1800-acre B.F. Phillips Ranch was established in 1936 and became world-renowned for its quarter horses.



Today, the ranch is home to an award-winning master planned community and the city's largest community recreation park, carrying the Phillips' name. B.F. Phillips' park not only supports major sports activities but is also the home of Ruff Range Dog Park (photo above, courtesy of Play Frisco).

Other parks have been named in honor of individuals or families who have contributed to the planning and development of our community. Former Mayors Grant, Bacchus, Warren, and Simpson have all been recognized with parks and plazas across the city. Residents whose names are synonymous with Frisco's history—Jo and Dayton Duncan, Barbara and Joe Gallegos, JR Newman, and Vivian Stark McCallum—have neighborhood parks named in their honor.

Frisco has a process for submitting names for new parks and trails coming online in the city. According to the city's naming guidelines, if you want to nominate a person or family's name for a city park or facility, *"the person should have made a major contribution to the City of Frisco and/or the Parks and Recreation system; or the person should be known for some other significant accomplishment."* The Park Naming Committee also considers names that bring attention to "outstanding and/or predominant physical characteristics of the land; landmark significance; historical significance; or street name identity."

**The two newest names added to the list of Frisco Parks
honoring historically significant residents are:
Jack Hamilton Park and Jimmy and Clara Jones Park!
We will feature more information on these new parks in future editions.**

Jack Hamilton Park: The 1.6-acre Jack Hamilton Park (formerly known as First Street Park) is located at the intersection of First Street and Ash Street in downtown Frisco. Ideas under consideration for the master plan include a loop concrete trail, lighting, and a shade structure.

Jimmy and Clara Jones Park: The 2.8-acre site is behind city hall south of Page Street between Jacob and Burlington streets. This park will be reflective of the Jones' love of family and community and is estimated to be complete in early fall of 2021.

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PLAYING IN FRISCO

HERITAGE COLLECTION SPOTLIGHT:



The Frisco Heritage Museum showcases artifacts that range from the simple to the sublime. These “toys” from the collection remind us that some forms of play haven’t changed as much as we have imagined. A sweet rag doll lays in a simple cradle in the Log Cabin in the Heritage Village, waiting for a child’s embrace.

Other period toys, including dominos, wooden tops and a simple version of the “Cup and Ball” game can be seen in the Heritage Museum Welcome Center.

Bob Warren’s recollection of “playing” in Frisco is captured in his book, *Frisco—Now and Then*. He shares in the chapter titled, *Games We Played*, that “Although the town had no parks, folks made their own recreation areas out of nearby streams, woods, and the biggest body of water around, Frisco Lake. They hunted, fished, boated, swam and even made a water slide out of the slippery spillway below the lakes dam.”

Other favorite playful past-times that Bob highlights in this chapter include rolling “hoops,” and pushing friends down the street curled up in old car tires. Children played traditional games like marbles, tag, tug-of-war, “London Bridge,” and one of my childhood favorites, “red rover.”

In the photo shown on the right, Mayor Bob is already demonstrating his leadership prowess as he, the little drummer boy, stands at the front of a parade of neighborhood friends.

Some children were fortunate enough to have trikes, bikes, and wagons.

Bob even tells the story of his neighbor, Lois (Marion) Cates, who had roller skates! The challenge for Lois was finding a surface smooth enough to skate safely. Fortunately for her, an actual skating rink would be set up in town where she could show off her skills—honed after hours of practice and I’m sure her share of skinned knees. Long-time Frisco residents still reminisce about the skating rink set up in the building located on the SE corner of 5th and Main.

These memories of playing in Frisco, along with countless other precious stories, are still available for purchase in Bob Warren’s book at: <https://store.bookbaby.com/book/nowandthen>

*Photo Source: Frisco—
Now and Then*



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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Bill (1931-2021) and Lois (1932-2021) Cates



Bill and Lois, May 2019 at Frisco Veteran's Memorial in Frisco Commons. Photo Courtesy of Frisco STYLE Magazine

Sometimes, words are inadequate to describe lives so full and so loving.

Bill and Lois Cates were natives of Frisco who lived their entire lives here—other than Bill's two years in the Army. Mike, their son, shares that they genuinely loved this town and its people... "even all the move-ins." Both Bill and Lois were active in many local organizations, including Frisco Baptist Church, Frisco Education Foundation, and the Heritage Association of Frisco.

They were both very involved students and graduates of Frisco High School (Bill in '48 and Lois in '49). This love of community and the Frisco ISD carried over into a deep fondness for current Frisco schools and their students. Their endowed scholarship was established to help at least one college-bound student a year pursue their dreams.

In grateful remembrance of Bill and Lois, the Heritage Association of Frisco has donated \$500 to the Frisco Education Foundation Cates Family endowed scholarship.

The "Turn Families" – Memories from Mike Cates

Both of my parents, Sonny and Joanne McSpedden, and Sammy Lane Vaughn were all very good friends at Frisco High School, along with Bob and Thelma Griffin. Jimmy Vaughn was a little younger, but he soon joined the group, especially after marrying Sammy. When they all had children, the Cates, McSpedden, and Vaughn families all attended First Baptist Church, Frisco. After Sunday evening services, the families would take turns hosting the others for a late supper or dessert. Through the years, the "Turn" families did many other things together, such as vacations, birthday and Christmas celebrations, etc. In many ways, from my perspective, this group (now five generations) was closer than many actual families, and we still are.



Joanne, Lois and Sammy "a few years ago."
Photo from Bill and Lois' refrigerator,
shared by Mike Cates.

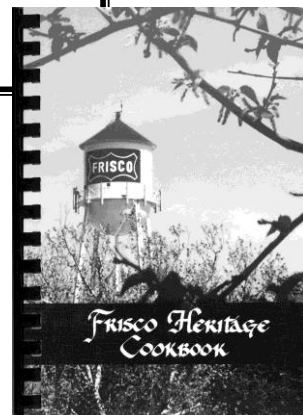


Lois and Bill Cates, Jimmy and Sammy Vaughn,
Joanne and Sonny McSpedden, Christmas 2008

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WHAT'S COOKING WITH FRISCO GARDEN CLUB MEMBERS

This month's Spring-focused recipes come to us from the kitchens of three beloved Frisco Garden Club members—Pearl Morris, Jean Wade, and Vivian McCallum. All three women were active members of the Heritage Association of Frisco and played many important roles in building our community and preserving its history.



CHICKEN-CRANBERRY LAYERED SALAD

Jean Wade

- | | |
|--|---|
| 2 T. gelatin | 1 C. mayonnaise |
| 1 C. water | ¼ tsp salt |
| 1 pound can cranberry sauce
(whole berry) | 2 C. cooked chicken or turkey,
diced |
| ¼ C. crushed pineapple, drained | ½ C. celery, diced |
| ½ C. pecans, broken | 2 T. fresh parsley - chopped |
| 4 T. lemon juice | chopped pecans |

Layer 1:

Soften 1 tablespoon gelatin in ¼ cup cold water. Dissolve over hot water. Add one - 1 pound can (2 cups) cranberry sauce, ¼ cup crushed pineapple (drain juice off), ¼ cup broken pecans and 1 tablespoon lemon juice. Pour into an 8 x 8 inch Pyrex dish. Chill till firm.

Layer 2:

Soften 1 tablespoon unflavored gelatin in ¼ cup cold water. Dissolve over hot water. Blend in 1 cup of mayonnaise, ½ cup water, 3 tablespoons of the lemon juice and ¼ teaspoon salt. Add 2 cups diced chicken or turkey, ¼ cup diced celery and 2 tablespoons chopped parsley. Pour over 1st layer and chill till firm. Take out by cutting squares, (red side up) top with mayonnaise and pecans. Serves 12.



Jean Wade and Vivian McCallum
Photo courtesy from the Frisco Garden
Club Scrapbook

Recipe photos
courtesy of Heritage
Association of Frisco

WALDORF SALAD

- 1 C. diced apple
- 1 C. diced celery
- ¼ C. mayonnaise

Vivian Stark McCallum

- 4 lettuce leaves
- 2 T. chopped walnuts or pecans

Mix apples, celery and mayonnaise; pile in lettuce leaf on individual salad plates. Garnish with nutmeats.

Note: Copied from the Waldorf Astoria Cookbook which was signed and presented to William O. McCallum in 1981 by Gene Scanlon, General Manager of the Waldorf Asotria Hotel in New York City.

COFFEE CAN SALAD ❄️

L. Pearl Morris

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ¼ C. fruit cocktail juice | 3 C. fruit cocktail, drained |
| 24 large marshmallows | ½ C. cherries, chopped |
| 2 (3-oz.) pkgs. cream cheese | 1 C. whipping cream, whipped |
| ½ C. mayonnaise | 3 drops red food coloring |

Combine juice and marshmallows in saucepan over LOW setting until marshmallows melt. Add cream cheese and mayonnaise and blend well. Add cocktail and cherries. Fold in whipped cream. Add coloring. Spoon into 1 pound coffee can and seal with lid. Freeze 24 hours. Will keep approximately 1 week.



Pearl Morris, Photo
courtesy from the Frisco
Garden Club Scrapbook

What recipe signals
Spring for you?
A favorite salad?
Desserts?
Share it with us on
our Facebook page.

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PARTNERING WITH AMAZON!

You may already be familiar with the Amazon Smile program where non-profit groups can partner with the retailer, providing an opportunity for customers to support their favorite charitable organization every time they shop with Amazon.



The Heritage Association of Frisco is set up as one of the organizations you can support with your Amazon purchases! You simply start at **smile.amazon.com** and you will still find the same Amazon you know and love, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the price of eligible purchases to HAF!

Signing up is easy!

Here is how to sign up for AmazonSmile:

1. Visit smile.amazon.com
2. Sign in with your Amazon.com credentials
3. Choose a charitable organization to receive donations, or search for the charity of your choice
4. Select your charity – **Select Heritage Association of Frisco** (location: Frisco, TX)

Start shopping!

Add a bookmark for smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

We will have more information in the near future introducing another exciting partnership with Amazon regarding our Heritage Association of Frisco merchandise.

Be on the lookout for that announcement in the next couple of months!

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CELEBRATIONS AND COMING ATTRACTIONS...

Happy Belated Birthday Frisco! Frisco's 119th Birthday celebration will be held on **Sunday, March 21, 2021 from 1-4pm** at Heritage Village.

The traditional Birthday Proclamation and blowing of the train whistle with the Mayor will at 2:00PM.

The Museum, Chapel and Crozier-Sickles House will be open and the blacksmiths will be here as well. Life-long Frisco resident (and newest HAF Board Member) Mike Sanchez will be playing guitar and singing during the afternoon—hopefully on the porch of the Smith Muse House. We will have individually wrapped cupcakes, water, and coloring books in the Depot for families to take home.

It's shaping up to be a great opportunity to get out, enjoy the warming weather, and tour the Village.

Historic Landmark Dedication: Mark your calendars for the dedication of the Atkins House, another historic landmark in Frisco, on Saturday, **March 20 at 2 p.m.** Location is 7191 Oak Street and the current homeowners are John and Bailey Kirby. The Atkins House will make the 36th site HAF has dedicated! Please join us as we celebrate another example of our beautiful history.



<http://www.friscoheritage.org/historic-sites/map/>

Sneak Preview of the Dedication...

"This Folk Victorian home was built circa 1902
in what is now Frisco's "Original Donation"

From the Heritage Association of Frisco Board of Directors

If you have not paid your annual dues, or you would like to support the work of HAF by becoming a member, please visit our website at www.friscoheritage.org. There are two ways to complete and submit your membership application.

1. Fill out and submit an [online application](#) at www.friscoheritage.org and pay through PayPal.
2. [Download](#), print it, fill it out and mail it along with your check to:

**Heritage Association of Frisco,
PO Box 263
Frisco, TX 75034**

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Heritage Association of Frisco members and friends,



I hope that this finds you doing well. The HAF Board has been continuing to meet regularly on Zoom to work through this year and think about the future.

February's unprecedented winter weather prevented us from celebrating Frisco's 119th Birthday on Sunday, February 21, 2021 at Heritage Village. We have pivoted to another date for our celebration. We are planning a drop-in event with various activities on March 21, 2021.

We will celebrate Frisco's 119th Birthday as well as celebrating the arrival of the first train to Frisco. The first train rolled into town on March 23, 1902.

This was after an 8 day delay due to rain damage along the rail between Hebron and Emerson. Apparently, Frisco has had weather related delays since its beginning.

We will have a Proclamation by the Mayor, blow the train whistle, and share some fun and fellowship. More details will be available on our website and Facebook page when the activities are finalized.



[Editor's note: A local resident captured the historic moment of the first train's arrival with an old-fashioned box camera. That photo is shown here to the right. This photo in addition to thousands of other historic images and artifacts are exactly what the Heritage Association of Frisco continues to painstakingly collect, catalogue and preserve.]

Photo courtesy of Heritage Association of Frisco

As always, I would like to encourage you all to renew your membership and help us to continue to research, preserve, and share Frisco's rich heritage. If any of you have an interest in becoming more involved, please let us know. We are always looking for members to help us explore the past and imagine the future together.

Historically yours,

Donna Schmittler, President, Heritage Association of Frisco

You too can own a part of Frisco's history and support the on-going efforts of the Heritage Association of Frisco by purchasing FRISCO The First 100 Years. Frisco's second comprehensive history book, is available for purchase at the deep discount price of \$20. You can pick one up in the welcome center of the Frisco Heritage Museum, but staff can only accept cash, or a check made payable to *Heritage Association of Frisco*.