

THE JOURNAL

The unofficial newsletter of Wilson County Historical Society



IN THIS ISSUE

NEW YEAR

2023 - A YEAR IN REVIEW

JANUARY MEETING

NEW MUSEUM EXHIBIT

OPRY LINEUP

COUNTY CLERK QUIZ

BUY YOUR BRICK

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Happy New Year!

by Anthony Delgado

My how time is flying by. It's already 2024.

What was happening one hundred and fifty years ago as the new year of 1874 was beginning?

According to the County Clerk's public records, on Saturday, January 3, 1874, Pantation (aka Pantaleon) Herrera, widower of Marina Ramires, filed a petition appointing his mother Juliana Gallagher (aka Gallegos) as the guardian of his four-year-old daughter Josefa Herrera.

Makes one wonder what caused Pantaleon to file such a petition? Was he sick? Having to seek life elsewhere? What did 1874 bring to him and his family?

2023 - A Year In Review

Our Society members can take pride in all of the Society's accomplishments in 2023. Here are the major highlights.

Viola and her team of hard-working volunteers produced many sold-out Floresville Opries garnering much needed monies for restoring the County Jailhouse. She thought the Opries were not enough, so she went even further and produced two *Western Shindigs* and, with her team, brought in thousands more dollars for the Jailhouse project. If you have not yet attended one of Viola's Opries, make it a 2024 priority. We guarantee you will have a good time.

While restoration is not yet fully complete, the County Jailhouse Museum opened its doors for regular and special, paranormal tours. Tara Lee, the Museum Director, also held the museum's grand re-opening attended by several descendants of former County sheriffs who once lived in the Jailhouse.

Gracing the entrance to the newly-opened Jailhouse Museum are engraved memorial bricks which continues to be fundraising project led by our fundraising committee members Neila Hopkins and Viola Henke.

Sarah Gella spent many hours coordinating and overseeing special events held at the historic Dewees-Remschel house.

A historical marker dedication ceremony for Dr Ella Ware, a memorial day ceremony for Obie Walker, and several Texas Ranger Cross ceremonies were also organized and conducted by our Society members.

JANUARY'S MEETING PROGRAM



6:00 PM

January 16th

Join us at our monthly meeting to learn about Casa Navarro, a National Historic Landmark and a State Historic site as well as the history of the famed Navarro family of Bexar. Our guest speaker is Belinda Gavallos, the President, Friends of Casa Navarro.

Wilson County Courthouse

Belinda Mora Gavallos is a daughter of San Antonio eleven generations deep. She has a family history originating from the founding families of the Canary Islands and the first Navarro to arrive from Corsica.

Belinda earned her degree in Business Administration from Texas A&M University in College Station and has spent her career as a fine arts professional curating and consulting both for private clients and institutions.

Belinda serves as Executive Director of the San Antonio Women's Chamber of Commerce, President, Friends of Casa Navarro, and is the incoming Chair of the Bexar County Historical Commission. Belinda is a member of the Conservation Society of San Antonio and a member of the coalition of community advocates trying to save the Texas Pavilion (Institute of Texan Cultures on the Hemisfair grounds).

Belinda is a member of the Canary Islands Descendants Association and the Daughters of the Republic of Texas.

NEW MUSEUM EXHIBIT

The Wilson County Jailhouse Museum opened its new exhibit on January 13th. ***Wilson County Agriculture History*** is an exhibition to aid visitors in learning about the crops and livestock that once were, and many continue to be, raised in the area, starting with the Canary Islanders established their ranches in the area.



The exhibit was made possible by the generous loaned artifacts from ***Finder's Keepers Market, Gerald Lubianski Enterprises, Edward & Wilma Schulze, Clay Maeckel, and Clarence Ehlers.***



Visit the museum.

Support local history.

Floresville Opry Lineup

Floresville Opry with Dancing

<i>Feb. 1, 2024</i>	<i>Justin Trevino</i>
<i>Mar. 7, 2024</i>	<i>Tony Booth</i>
<i>Apr. 4, 2024</i>	<i>Billy Mata</i>
<i>May 2, 2024</i>	<i>Randy Carson</i>
<i>Jun. 6, 2024</i>	<i>Jody Jenkins</i>
<i>July 4, 2024</i>	<i>Freddy Cruz</i>

Floresville Opry House Band

Wilson County Expo & Community Center

435 St Hwy 97 East out of Floresville, Texas

Doors Open @ 5:00 pm—music 6:00-9:15 pm

Info: Viola Henke 830-391-1062

Gen Admission \$15.00 Reserved Table Seats
(8) \$100.00

Dinner \$10.00 Desserts \$1.00 Concessions

Bring your own adult beverages.

Door Prizes Silent Auction

Be sure to check out our Website and "like" our Facebook page



<https://www.wilsoncountyhistory.org>

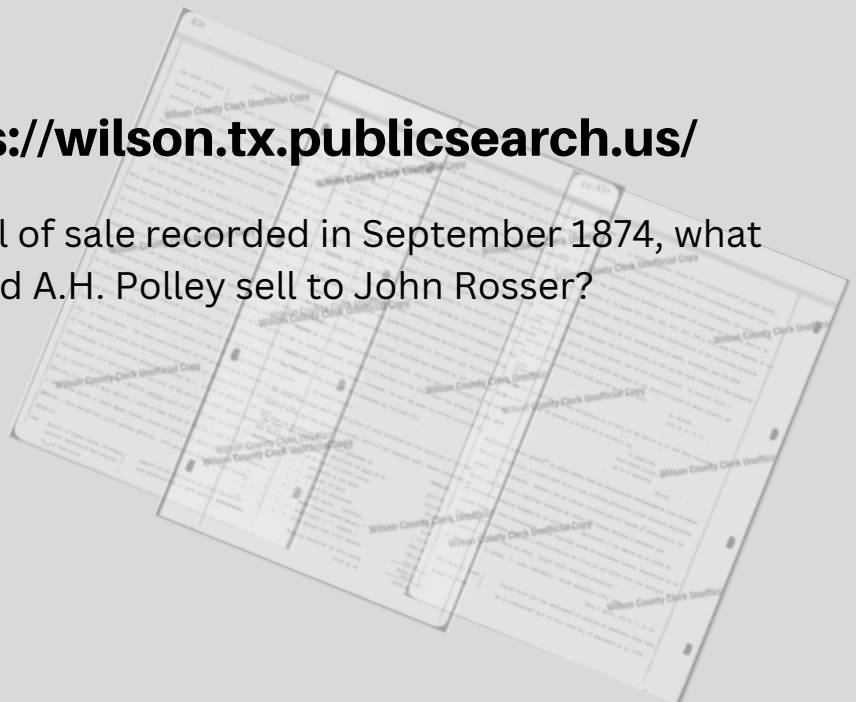


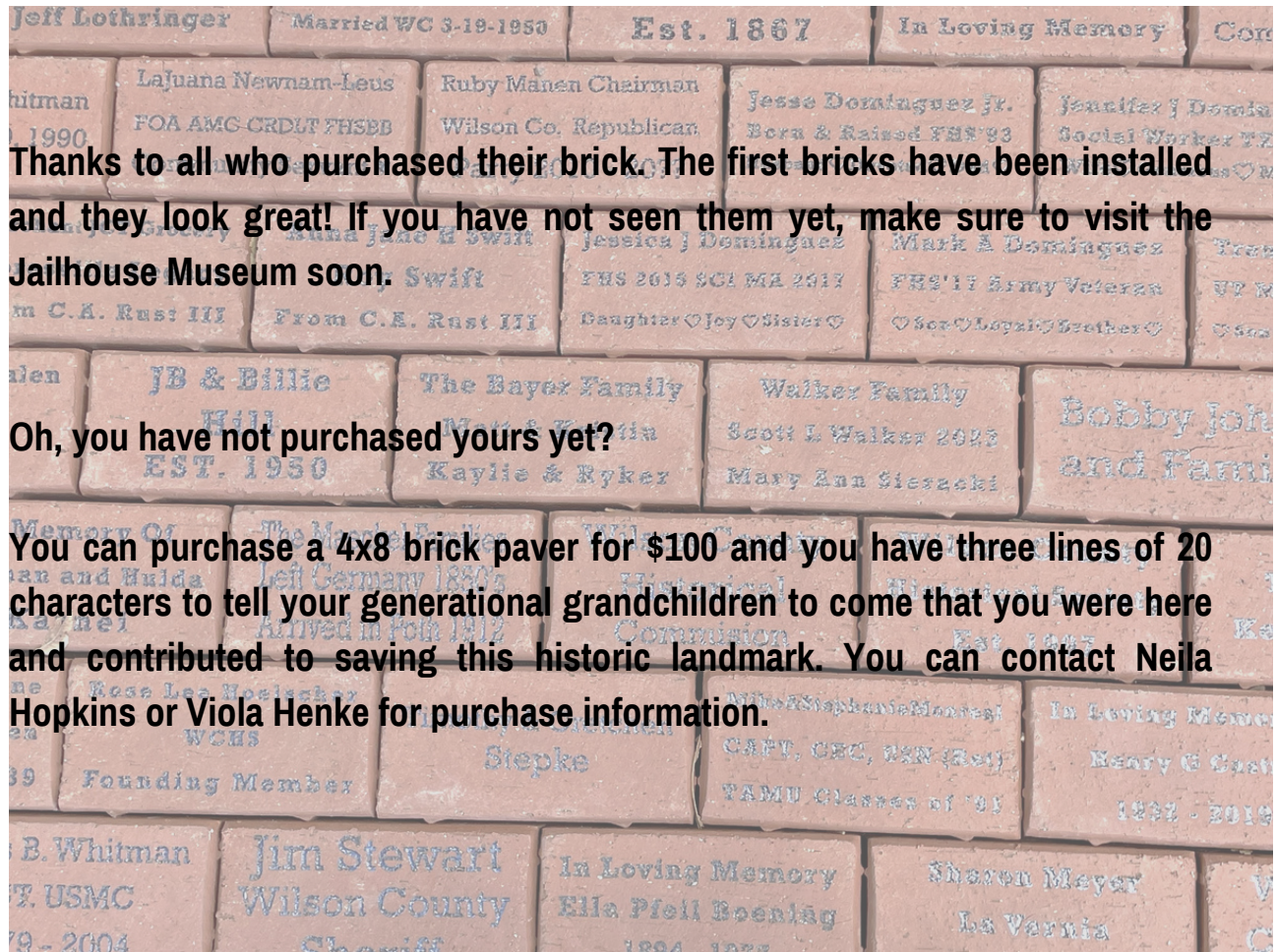
[facebook.com/wilsoncountyhistorical society](https://facebook.com/wilsoncountyhistorical%20society)

Have you visited the Wilson County Clerk's Official Records Site?

<https://wilson.tx.publicsearch.us/>

Within a bill of sale recorded in September 1874, what did A.H. Polley sell to John Rosser?





Submit your newsletter articles not later than the 5th of each month. Please send them via email to info@wilsoncountyhistory.org in MS-Word format. If sending pictures, please send them separate from the article and provide description of the picture(s). Please include when the picture was taken, the location, and name of persons, if known, in the picture.