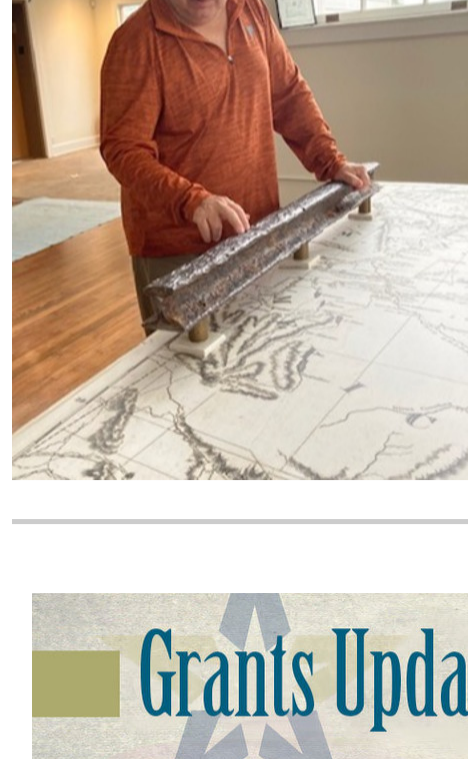


Brenham Museum Officially Opens

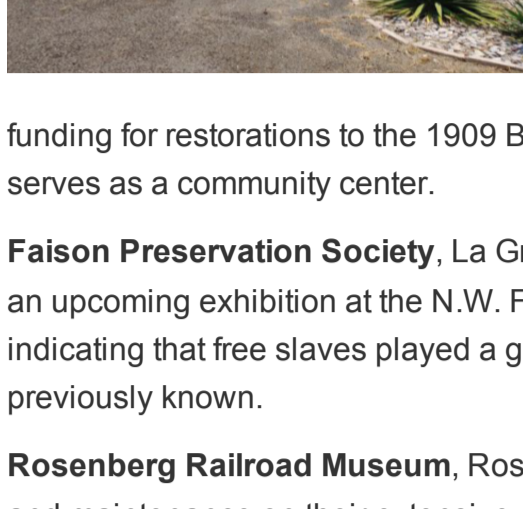


After years of preparation and research, the Brenham Heritage Museum (BHM), a THF member organization, opened its doors to the public on November 17. Housed in a decommissioned post office on the edge of the town's historic downtown, the building features tall wooden windows, decorative transoms, and original tile and hardwood floors.

THF staff member Gene Krane visited the museum before its opening and reported on what she found in [THF's November blog](#). Moving forward, the new Central Texas museum will be open Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a. m. to 4 p.m

Grants Update

THF Fall 2022 Grant Recipients Announced



THF has announced Fall 2022 grants supporting the following projects:

Los Amigos de la Loma, Del Rio, will use its grant for the repair of crosses and monuments at the Cementerio Loma de la Cruz, part of the group's project to restore and beautify the late 1800's era cemetery.

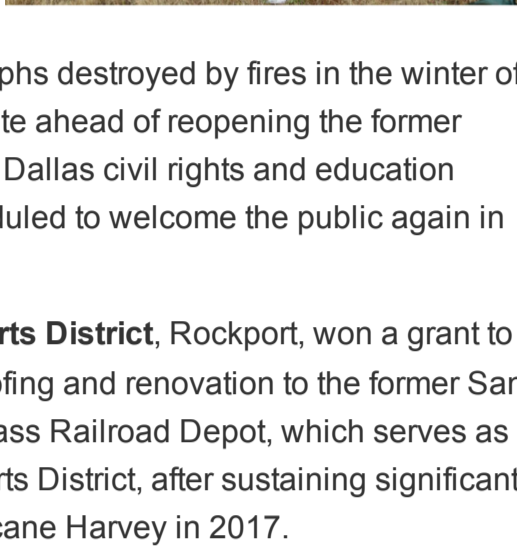
Bartlett Activities Center, Bartlett, has won funding for restorations to the 1909 Bartlett Grammar School building, which currently serves as a community center.

Faison Preservation Society, La Grange, received a grant for the design and curation of an upcoming exhibition at the N.W. Faison House detailing significant recent discoveries indicating that free slaves played a greater role in the history of the historic residence than previously known.

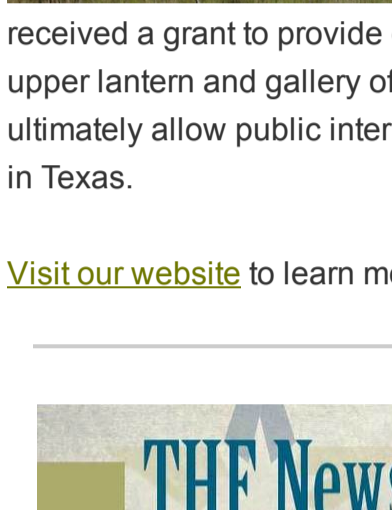
Rosenberg Railroad Museum, Rosenberg, secured funding to perform weatherization and maintenance on their extensive collection of historic railroad artifacts and to upgrade archival processes at the Museum.

Neill-Cochran House Museum, Austin, will use its grant towards the restoration of former slave quarters located on Museum grounds to their original Antebellum appearance and function ahead of the public exhibition "Reckoning with the Past: The Untold Story of Race in Austin," scheduled to open in Fall 2023.

American Veterans Archaeological Recovery (AVAR), Okemos, MI, won approval for a grant to assist with a central Texas field survey in search of artifacts related to a long-sought lost battlefield. The survey will be carried out by veterans, part of AVAR's unique "Rehabilitation Archaeology Program."



Kathlyn Joy Gilliam Museum, Dallas, has secured funding to reproduce signage and photographs destroyed by fires in the winter of 2020-2021 and to install a community mural at the site ahead of reopening the former home-turned-museum honoring the legacy of famed Dallas civil rights and education advocate Kathlyn Joy Gilliam. The Museum is scheduled to welcome the public again in 2023.



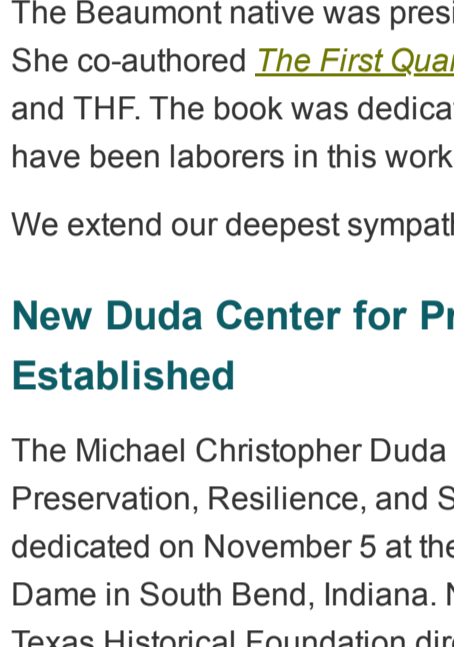
Rockport Cultural Arts District, Rockport, won a grant to continue weatherproofing and renovation to the former San Antonio & Aransas Pass Railroad Depot, which serves as a hub for the Cultural Arts District, after sustaining significant damage during Hurricane Harvey in 2017.

Friends of the Texas Historical Commission, Austin, will use its grant towards speaker honoraria for the 2023 Real Places Conference, the Texas Historical Commission's annual interdisciplinary historic preservation conference.

Bolivar Point Lighthouse Foundation, Port Bolivar, received a grant to provide detailed architectural drawings for the reconstruction of the upper lantern and gallery of the 1872 lighthouse, part of the Foundation's ongoing efforts to ultimately allow public interior access to one of the few remaining 19th century lighthouses in Texas.

[Visit our website](#) to learn more about the THF grants program.

THF News



Former THF President Rosine Wilson Passes Away

THF has learned of the death of one of its early leaders, Rosine McFadden Wilson, a fifth-generation Texan whose Lone Star roots were deep. She descended from two signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence, two veterans of the Battle of San Jacinto, and her great-great-grandparents were among the first settlers in what is now Jefferson County but was then part of Mexico.

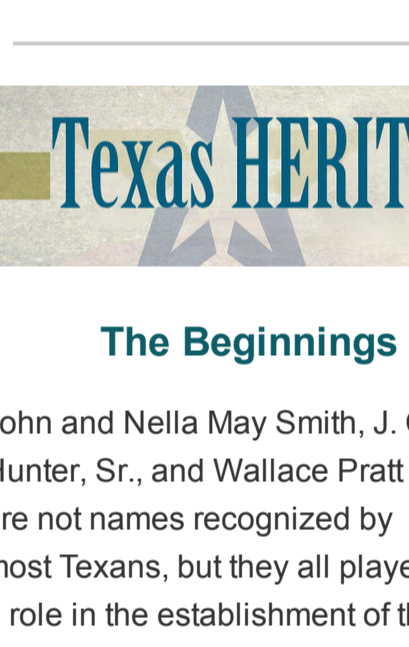
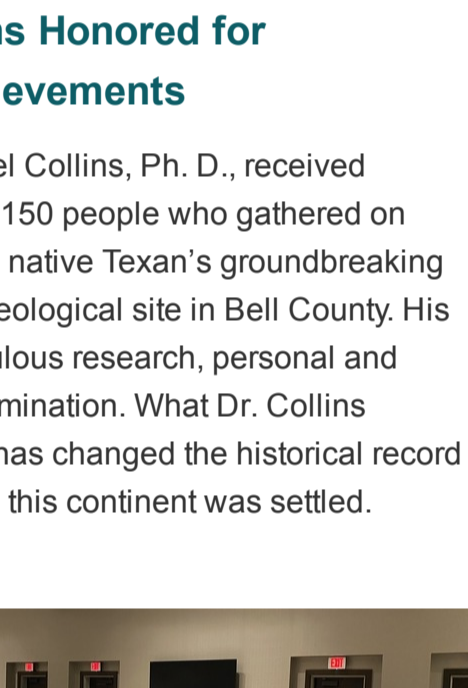
The Beaumont native was president of the Texas Historical Foundation from 1976-1979. She co-authored *The First Quarter Century*, a history of the Texas Historical Commission and THF. The book was dedicated "to all those preservationists, living and dead, who have been laborers in this work..."

We extend our deepest sympathy to Ms. Wilson's family and loved ones.

New Duda Center for Preservation Established

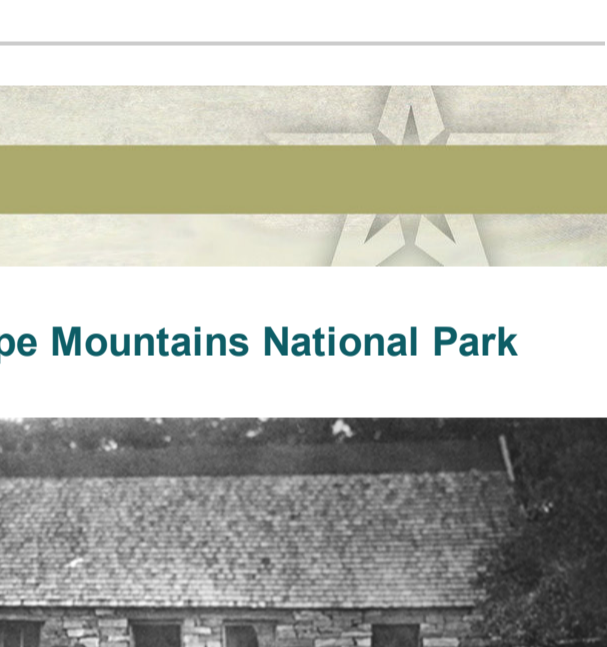
The Michael Christopher Duda Center for Preservation, Resilience, and Sustainability was dedicated on November 5 at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana. Named for a young Texas Historical Foundation director and Notre Dame alumni who unexpectedly passed away in 2019, the center will become a nexus of learning and historic preservation—honoring Michael's love of history with his commitment to saving historic architecture.

Michael's parents Fritz and Mary Lee Duda and the family's foundation made a gift to the University's School of Architecture to establish the center.



Dr. Michael Collins Honored for Outstanding Achievements

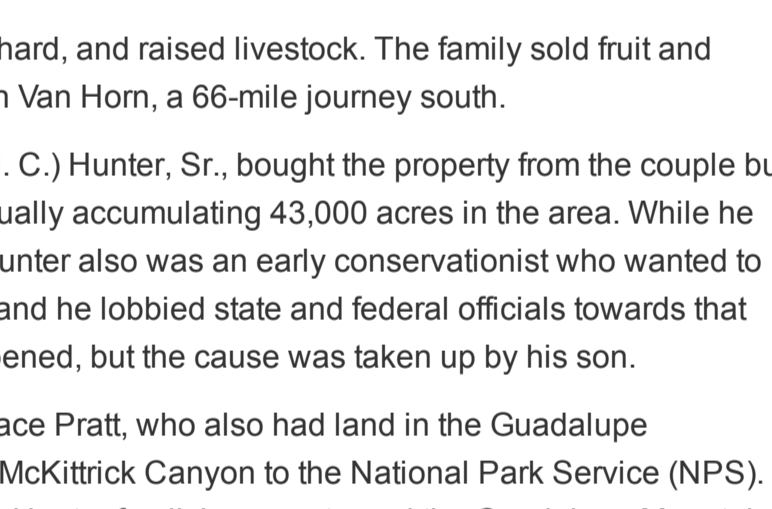
Archeologist Dr. Michael Collins, Ph. D., received recognition from nearly 150 people who gathered on October 28 to honor the native Texan's groundbreaking efforts at the Gault archeological site in Bell County. His journey involved meticulous research, personal and financial risk, and determination. What Dr. Collins accomplished at Gault has changed the historical record and theories about how this continent was settled.



Texas HERITAGE

The Beginnings of Guadalupe Mountains National Park

John and Nella May Smith, J. C. Hunter, Sr., and Wallace Pratt are not names recognized by most Texans, but they all played a role in the establishment of the state's Guadalupe Mountains National Park - which makes their stories significant.



The Smiths settled in the West Texas Guadalupe Mountains region in 1906, where they raised their 10 children, cultivated an orchard, and raised livestock. The family sold fruit and produce from their Frijole Ranch in Van Horn, a 66-mile journey south.

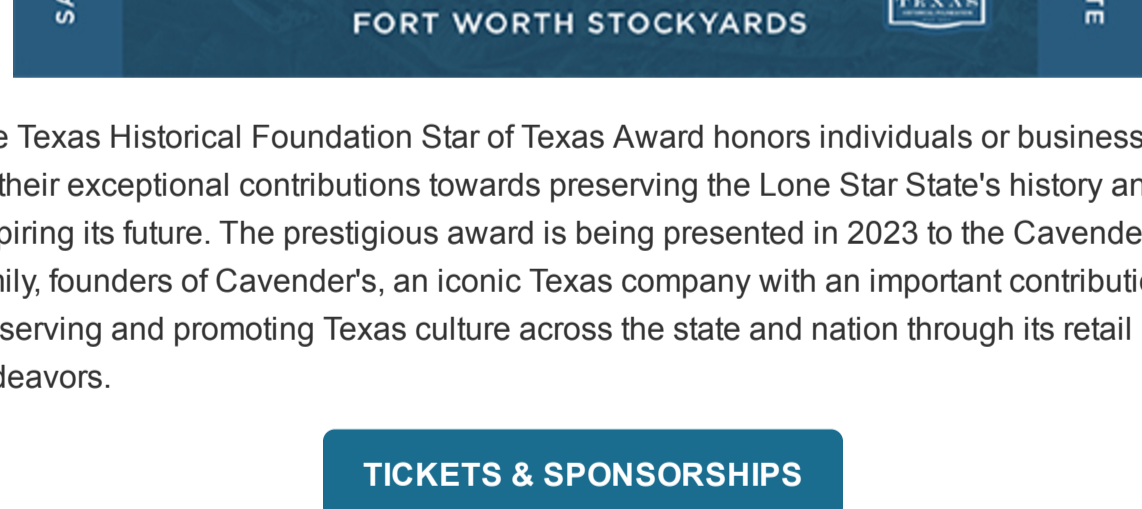
In 1942, oilman Jesse Coleman (J. C.) Hunter, Sr., bought the property from the couple but added to that initial holding, eventually accumulating 43,000 acres in the area. While he did raise livestock on the ranch, Hunter also was an early conservationist who wanted to see the remote region preserved, and he lobbied state and federal officials towards that goal. Hunter died before that happened, but the cause was taken up by his son.

In 1958, petroleum geologist Wallace Pratt, who also had land in the Guadalupe Mountains, offered 5,632 acres in McKittrick Canyon to the National Park Service (NPS). The federal agency purchased the Hunter family's property, and the Guadalupe Mountains National Park officially opened in 1972.

Read more about the early days of the national park, one of two in the state, by [becoming a member of THF today](#) and receiving Texas HERITAGE magazine in your mailbox every quarter.

THF Events

Cavender Family to be Honored at Star of Texas Event This Spring

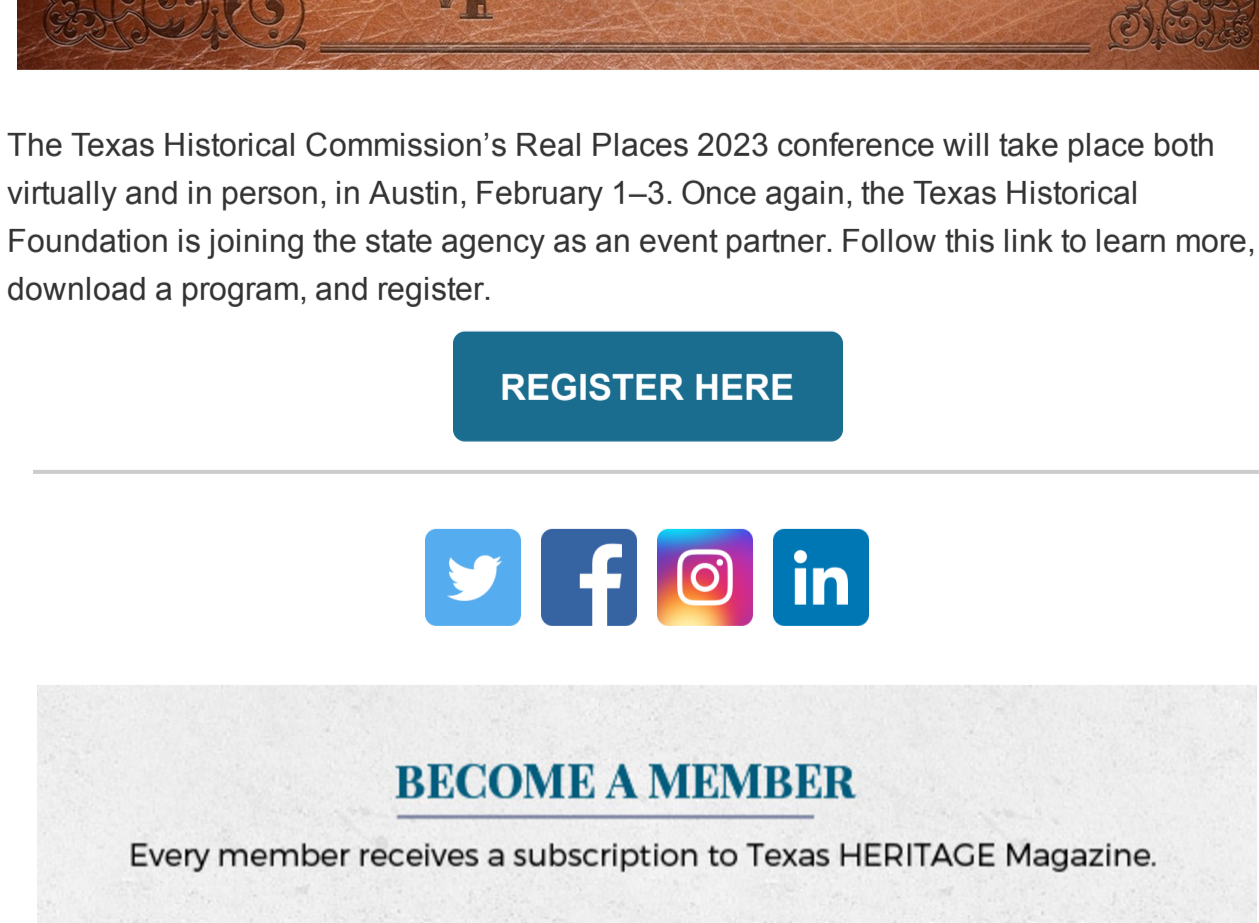


The Texas Historical Foundation Star of Texas Award honors individuals or businesses for their exceptional contributions preserving the Lone Star State's history and inspiring its future. The prestigious award is being presented in 2023 to the Cavender family, founders of Cavender's, an iconic Texas company with an important contribution to preserving and promoting Texas culture across the state and nation through its retail endeavors.

[TICKETS & SPONSORSHIPS](#)

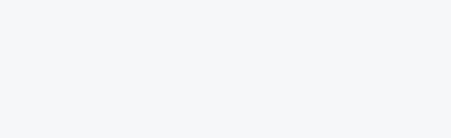
TEXAS Preservation

Upcoming Historic Preservation Conference Planned for February



The Texas Historical Commission's Real Places 2023 conference will take place both virtually and in person, in Austin, February 1-3. Once again, the Texas Historical Foundation is joining the state agency as an event partner. Follow this link to learn more, download a program, and register.

[REGISTER HERE](#)



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