

















As we all sit around and discuss ways to keep from melting in the Texas heat, let me propose an incredible place wit... See more





## celebration magazine June/July 2022

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## CELEBRATTING SUMMER IN DOWNTOWN MCKINNEY

JOHN US FOR OUR MICHININGU SACAVILGER HUNTL



### PAT RODGERS, COLLIN COUNTY'S LIVING LEGACY

If you have ever taken a trolley tour in historic downtown McKinney then you have surely crossed paths with Collin LCounty historian Pat Rodgers. Over the past twelve years, Pat has made history come to life for visitors who have boarded the small green trolley as it follows a path through the streets of McKinney. She is famous for her trolley tour of the historic

homes and buildings, telling little known facts, details and stories of the early days of McKinney. Her latest trolley tour is called Bad Boys, Desperadoes and Outlaws of McKinney. During the tour, she dresses as Belle Starr and wears a six shooter, boots, and hat as she tells stories of the daring and dangerous escapades of the early outlaws.

Pat also volunteers her time at the Collin County History Museum located in the historic Post Office

and Federal building, built in 1911, in downtown McKinney. She believes strongly in the museum's mission to Preserve and Honor the Past, Connect with the Present, and Embrace the Future. Collin County has a very colorful past, full of colorful and not always honorable men and women. Many were flawed individuals that made mistakes that impacted them throughout their lives. Pat feels like it is important to learn from history so that we do not repeat some of those same mistakes today.

Pat spends hours and hours of time researching topics and people for her school and museum programs. Her role as storyteller at the museum came about as she determined that people really identified with a real-life character from history. Through that character, she is able to bring history to life and the listener is more apt to remember that moment in history and the struggles of the times in which these people lived.

During the 2017-2018 World War 1 Centennial Celebration, Pat researched the life of Ann Compton who was a nurse in the Army Nurse Corps. In her programs to various groups Pat dressed as a WWI nurse and told the courageous story of Ann Compton who died of pneumonia and influenza at the age of 28. She was the

only service woman in Texas to die in the Great War.

like he did. Ralph helped change the Texas and his story became a story of

In 2020 as the spread of Covid shut do Pat did not let that stop her. She and up a studio in their home, complete green screen. She changed all of he

online Zoom prog different Zoom pro into the homes of Dallas, Collin, De partnership with ( continued telling l love of history.

Pat has received work.

In 2020, the Joh Daughters of th honored her with History Award. In Living Legacy Av Historical Commi

Pat and her husba

prairie style Arts and Craft home, th restored, in the historic district in Mck been an important part of her life and love with everyone she meets.





#### BRING YOUR KIDS AND GRANDKIDS TO THE

# Collin County History Museum

ENJOY THE RICH HISTORY OF COLLIN COUNTY AND TAKE A TRIP BACK IN TIME WITH YOUR FAMILY. SHARE YOUR PERSONAL STORIES AND MEMORIES OF HOW IT WAS BACK WHEN WITH THE ONES YOU LOVE!

YOUR HISTORY. YOUR MEMORIES. YOUR FAMILY.

#### **COLLIN COUNTY HISTORY MUSEUM**

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