

**The Rockwall County Historical Foundation and The Rockwall County Historical Commission present the
2020 Sheri Stodghill Lecture Series Schedule**

History lectures are presented on the 2nd Friday of each month at 12:00 PM on the 3rd Floor of THE HISTORIC DOWNTOWN COURTHOUSE. Admission is free and the public is welcome. Please join us!

Friday, February 14 – “Water”

Tom Kula has served as the Executive Director of the North Texas Municipal Water District for more than 5 years. He is a graduate of West Point with a degree in Civil Engineering. Tom served 32 years in the U.S. Army and retired as a Brigadier General. Tom will provide an overview of the District's history of providing water in a state that has only one natural lake and give an update on major water projects underway to continue supplying this fast-growing region with water for our future.

Friday, March 13 – “Our Vanishing History: How Neighborhoods Transition or Die”

Rockwall resident Sol Villasana is a fifth generation Texan, lawyer, and published author. His interest in history led him to write his 2011 book, "Dallas's Little Mexico", about the city's oldest and largest Mexican American neighborhood. Sol will discuss how distinct, urban neighborhoods are vulnerable to unchecked development and some possible ways to help these neighborhoods transition rather than be totally destroyed. Sol served as an officer and member of the board of Rockwall County Helping Hands and is president-elect of the Rockwall County Bar Association.

Thursday, April 9 – “Rockwall County Courthouses 1873 and Beyond”

Jerry Wimpee is a 7th generation Texan and has lived his life in Rockwall County Texas. He began his 48-year public service career with the city of Dallas Parks Department. During his 28 years with the city he served as Assistant to the Director, Assistant Director of the Zoo and Aquarium, General Manager of Operations at Fair Park, Park Superintendent of Lakes Division, and Chief of the Park Police. Additionally, Jerry has also served as a Rockwall County Commissioner for 20 years.

Friday, May 8 – “When the President Calls”

Clarence L. Jorif, An Army veteran and retired Secret Service Agent will discuss and describe his duties during the Clinton and Bush Presidential terms. His experiences and insight will be interesting and rich in history.

Friday, September 11 – “The American Constitution”

Dick Clark is a former history teacher at the high school and community college levels. Currently he is a member of the Historic Preservation Advisory Board for the City of Rockwall, VP of Programs for Rockwall County Historical Foundation and the Historian for the Terry Fisher American Legion Post 117 Rockwall, Texas. He will discuss the United States Constitution.

Friday, October 9 – “History of Royse City and Royse City ISD”

Bobby Summers is a 6th generation Texan and lifelong resident of the Royse City area. Bobby has served on the Board of Trustees for Royse City ISD for the past 24 years. He has announced Royse City High School football games for over 30 years. Bobby has written sports related articles about Royse City ISD athletics for 50 years. A new Royse City Middle School that will open the fall of 2020, will be named after Bobby Summers. Bobby's topic is the history of Royse City and Royse City ISD. From the beginning of the negotiations between Mr. Garrett Burgess Griffin Royse aka "Byrd" Royse and the Missouri-Kansas-Texas Railroad to the present surge in growth from 204 students to 8,000 in 2020.

Friday, November 13 – “History of Royse City, Texas”

Lucille C. Bell was born and raised in Royse City. Lucille is a graduate of Royse City High School and Texas Christian University, with BBA and MBA degrees. Lucille and her husband Bill have been very active in their community. Bill served as an elected official, i.e., JOP, County Judge, Criminal District Attorney. Lucille is very active in her church civic organizations. Lucille was Executive Director of Lone Star CASSA for 15 years and retired in December of 2019. Lucille and Bill also received the Carolyn Francisco Excellence in Preservation Award in 2019. Lucille will review the history of Royse City.

Friday, December 11 – “Rock Wall Revisited”

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