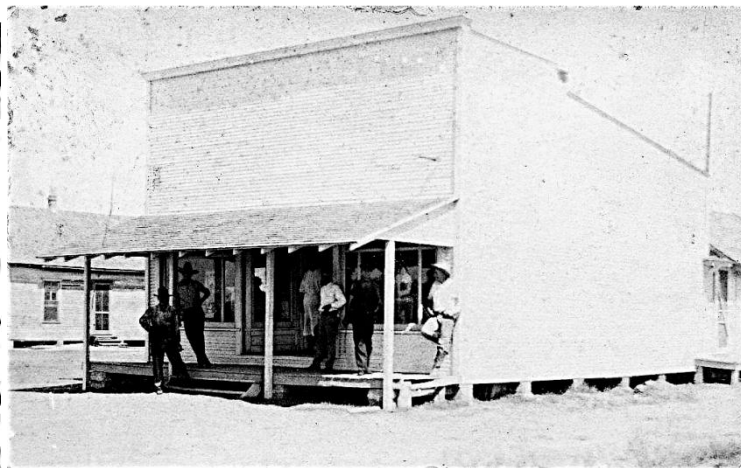


YOU AND YOUR FAMILY ARE CORDIALLY INVITED to the annual Collegeport Day celebration, which will be observed **Saturday, May 26, 2012** at the **Mopac House**. This date marks the 104th anniversary of our founding. **Dinner will be served at 12:00 Noon**. Please bring side dishes and desserts to compliment barbecued beef. Set-up begins about 10:00 am, so arrive early and lend a hand to help prepare for our celebration. **Panhead 59**, a newly formed band will provide entertainment and their public address system. Bring photos, family memories or favorite recipes to share. Pass the word to your family in case we have missed anyone.

OUR GRATEFUL APPRECIATION to the Pierce and Chiles families for contributing toward last year's BBQ, and to all who helped with this year's gathering. The cost of beef is considerably higher than last year. Please be generous with your donations at the door so we can keep this tradition. **Persons wishing to donate toward the purchase of beef this year, please contact G. W. Franzen at (979) 240-8778 or e-mail: gfranzen@tisd.net**

ALL ARE ENCOURAGED to help with Collegeport Day expenses through your free-will gifts and donations. There is no charge for the meal, but donations received pay the expenses of the homecoming and electricity, insurance, building maintenance, and incidental expenses throughout the year. The ladies at the registration tables will direct you if you would like information on making a tax-deductible donation to the **Mopac House Foundation**.

LAST COLLEGEPORT DAY we remembered Hattie & Hugo Kunding. Families of both H & H were present to share memories of two of Collegeport's most beloved citizens. "Miss Hattie & Mr. Hugo" were local merchants who owned and operated the Collegeport Drug Store where, at their marble counter, fountain drinks, homemade ice cream and frozen delights were served up to generations. Earl "Spooky" Halfen displayed a painting by his mother, Juliet, of Miss Hattie behind the counter, and Jeanette "Sisty" (Williams) Angelo also displayed a painting of Miss Hattie drawing up a drink from the Tiffany fount. Several others shared stories of Hattie & Hugo, and the Hubert Family (Mr. Hugo's relatives) presented family cookbooks. What memories!



Early photos of the Collegeport Drug Store. The interior photo shows Hugo Kunding behind the marble soda fountain. The exterior photo shows the building at Turnerville, where it was moved in the 1920's, as the town center had moved from Central Street to the south and east of the townsite. Other businesses had organized near the railroad when families were brought in to farm rice on the acreage south of town.

IN MEMORIAM

Bobbie Duffy Dykes
Christine S. Franzen
Carroll L. Harvey
Earl M. Huitt
Robert A. Jenkins
Jessie Mae Bagley McDonald
James Penland
John Anthony Rusk

THE HISTORY OF A PLACE is much more than dates and monuments. The real history comes alive in the stories and memories of those who live it. Many have shared written stories, memories, and photos, which are posted online: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txmatago/collegeport.htm>

Bobbie Duffy Dykes shared many memories and photos for our archives. She lost her battle with cancer earlier this year. We share this remembrance in her memory:

**Tour de Collegeport
A Bicycle Ride**

by Bobbie Duffy Dykes

I was raised in Collegeport, and each winter we lived in town so I could attend school. Each summer was spent at the ranch which was seven or eight miles from town.

One summer when I was 10 or 11 my friend Betty from Rosenberg was visiting. We decided to ride our bikes. Somewhere down the road from the house, we got the notion to go see my grandparents, Tom and Maud Fulcher, who lived in town just west of the drugstore. The wind is usually blowing from the south or southeast so with the wind behind us we made it to town. We stopped at the drugstore and charged two of Mrs. Hattie's ice cream cones to my dad for the princely sum of ten cents. We ate them as we sat on the porch and visited with Grandma.

We headed back to the ranch going against the wind, and it took all the strength we had. I do not remember anyone passing us on the road to offer a ride, so we pedaled on. There were no fences to separate the pasture from the roadway, and the cattle wanted their share in the middle of the road. I never knew until that time just how huge cattle really were and many of them had very mean looking eyes. Have you ever been handle bar to horn with a big old range cow?

My dad always drove a red pickup and far off in the distance a red spot could be seen. I had mixed emotions when the red spot got larger and larger, and I could see two very angry adults. I never did find out how long we were gone before they missed us but however long, it gave them ample time to get really, really angry. Daddy put the bicycles in the back of the pickup and we scrambled in with them and rode home. I never received any real punishment but had to hear "Do you want to take a bicycle ride?" for the rest of the summer.

The following are excerpts of the memories received about Hattie & Hugo:

COLLEGEPORT MEMORIES

by Ethel Nelson Williams—2011

Mr. Hugo was my doctor. From a very early age, being overly active, I had many accidents that didn't require Mom bringing me to Bay City to Dr. Loos. We, Sis [Rosalie] and I, the Guyer girls and others played in the water below the Hurd home. The men made us a raft. It helped because of the many oyster shells. Well, to this day, at 88 years, I still carry a huge scar on my right foot from an oyster shell cut. Mom took me to Mr. Hugo's and he cleaned the wound and filled the gash with Unguentine. No water on the wound he said. Well, it didn't heal fast enough for me, so I went across the road to my dearest friends Stanley and Mother (Rena) Wright. I wanted some horse medicine Stanley had used on his mare when she cut her foot, Balsam of Myrrh. We got a chicken feather out of the chicken yard and applied the Rx in, out and around the wound. It healed pretty quickly.

The wonderful ice cream-however it was served was the best. My favorite was Coke Float. The stools were so special to sit on and lean on the fountain so clean and cold. Sometimes the fizzer wouldn't work, but we just made a substitute. Wonderful Memories. Caring and loving couple."

Memories of Hattie & Hugo Kunderling

by Phyllis Holsworth Derrick—May 17, 2011

"Miss Hattie and Mr. Hugo were such a stabilizing force in our community. They shared their vocation and mutual interest with all of us. World War II years brought serious rationing to so many things. One of my early remembrances of the Drug Store was of Miss Hattie—on rare occasions, and it was such a treat—of her reaching into one of the glass cabinets and bringing out a box of Hersheys. Sometimes, she had Hershey Kisses to parcel out. They were much larger and much more milk chocolate then.

During the teen years our church choir loved going to the Drug Store after Christian Endeavor and choir practice every Wednesday night. It was our favorite hang out! Miss Hattie and Mr. Hugo, with his signature swirl, would serve us one of our favorite sodas or ice cream. Mr. Hugo introduced my family to **Baby Percy**. It is no doubt the best medicine or tonic for an upset stomach or heartburn.

Ironically, the 1961 Carla Gulf Storm completely destroyed the Drug Store and her home. Jesse, my husband and a friend had driven down after the storm to see the damages. On the way back to Waco they stopped at the El Campo Restaurant to eat and there sat Miss Hattie hovered in a booth. Jesse brought her home to Waco and she stayed several days with us. Soon she was back to her old self and drive and the rest is history. She was able to build a new home right over the space where the Drug Store stood.

As we all know, their kindness endeared them to us all. She will forever be in my memories."

VISITS TO COLLEGEPORT

by Mary Lee Walzel—Hattie's great niece, November 22, 2010

"Uncle Hugo was always such a quiet man. I remember him as always sitting at his rolltop desk in the back corner of the store or out pumping gas. The first thing that he did when we got to their house was to make us a Collegeport Special which I think was grape juice and grapefruit juice combined. For supper that night we always had a big pot of boiled eggs! Aunt Hattie was the outgoing one of the two. She was always bustling around doing something or visiting with the customers. She was really a good cook, too. We girls always had such a good time going to Collegeport. Aunt Hattie would let us help at the fountain some and always brag on us. Uncle Hugo used to have a dunking bird sitting up on one of the showcases and we thought that was such a neat thing. We usually ended up with having one go home with us. When we were getting ready to go home. Uncle Hugo would go fill three bags with candy for our trip home. We always looked forward to that!

NO RICE PLANTED THIS SEASON—Due to the severe drought of 2011, on March 1, the irrigation supply was completely curtailed by the Lower Colorado River Authority for the 2012 growing season. This is the first time in Collegeport's history there is no rice planted on the canal system. Irrigation systems were built to utilize the water of the Lower Colorado River to grow crops and encourage development on the Mid-Gulf Coast of Texas in the early 1900's. Collegeport had its own pumping plant and canal system, which was consolidated with other independent irrigation operations to create the Gulf Coast Water Company in about 1926. This irrigation company delivered water until it was acquired by the Lower Colorado River Authority in 1959, making the LCRA the irrigation provider. Stay tuned for further developments.

YOUR COLLEGEPORT PHOTOS OR MEMORIES COULD BE HERE!

To share yours, e-mail to: gfranzen@tisd.net

We hope to see you on the 26th...



D. H. Morris Groceries & Feed



Collegeport Public School



Avenue Hotel



Collegeport State Bank



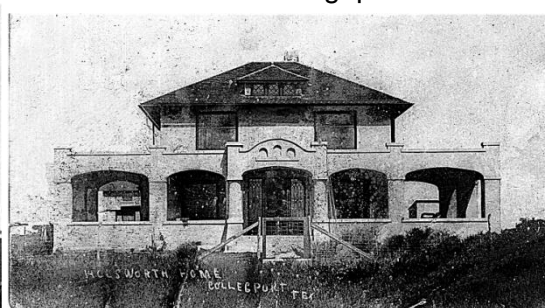
First Church of Collegeport--Federated



Gulf Coast University



Grace Chapel of St. Mary's Mission



E. A. Holsworth Home



First School in the Community Church



Hotel Collegeport



Home of Burton D. Hurd



Home built by Jonathan Edwards Pierce. The A. A. Penland family lived here for many years before owners, Lolalita and Earl Cockburn resided here after their retirement.



Collegeport "Bonehead" Club
Organized the Collegeport Area VFD in the early 1960's.



Home of Theo. & Emma Smith.
Later Home of Ben & Mae Mowery.
At one time in the 1920's this was the Texas Bull Calf Hunting Club.



Excursion trains brought prospective buyers to the area. (ca.1909)



St. Louis, Brownsville & Mexico Train
(ca. 1910)



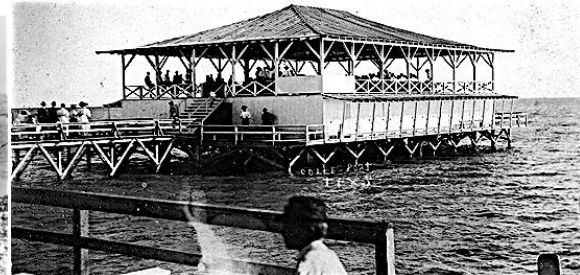
Collegeport Depot
(ca. 1930)



B. V. Merck Home; Merck girls.



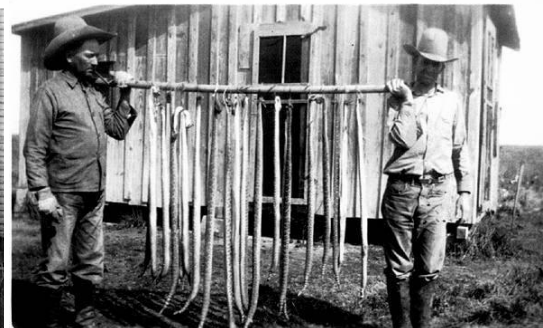
The "Grace of Collegeport"



Collegeport "Pagoda" Pavilion



Collegeport 4-H Club



Louie Cornelius & Leo Duffy with Rattlesnakes



Dean Eanes Merck on Wagon