

# FEDERATED WOMEN'S CLUBS BUY LOT FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING

Announcement was made Friday morning by Miss Virginia Kelly, president, that the Longview Federation of Women's club had bought the lot for its projected community center and that the campaign for additional funds to erect the club building had been accelerated by the various participating organizations.

Purchase of the lot, which is located at North and Second streets, near the Senior high school, marks the culmination of the first part of

the concerted campaign that has been conducted by the federation, and signifies the beginning of another important phase in its program of work. Now that sufficient money has been raised for the lot, the next step is to further the drive for funds to construct the building. Unusual success has attended the efforts of the clubs, due largely to the zeal and enthusiasm shown by the members in their various enterprises.

The federation is staging a two-day carnival next month and elaborate plans are under way for the big parade on May 3, opening day. More than 25 floats have already been entered, and at least 75 more are promised. The carnival promises to offer high-class entertainment.

The clubs are also cooperating with the merchants of Longview in a city-wide observance of National Cotton Week, May 5-11. They will sponsor two cotton balls, one at the Caroca club, the other at the Armory Hall. The dancers will be required to wear cotton frocks or suits.

## WOMEN'S FEDERATION PLANS TO CONTINUE WORK THROUGH SUMMER MONTHS AT MEETING

With the recommendation from its president, Miss Virginia Kelly, to continue to cooperate throughout the summer and not to feel that work must stop because the meetings were adjourned, the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs closed its last meeting of this year. The club representatives met Tuesday afternoon at Wesley hall for a summary of the work accomplished by the Federation since its organization in February.

A tentative report from the treasurer showed that through the enthusiastic work of the members and the close cooperation of the clubs more than \$800 had been raised for the woman's building fund during the three months since the organization of the Federation.

Miss Nicholson, state itinerant health nurse, was a guest speaker at the meeting. She was introduced by Miss Dorothy Wentland, Gregg county health nurse. The founding of a children's free dental clinic by the Federation as its health project was urged by Miss Nicholson in her talk. She explained the great need for this kind of service to the indigent children and society outlined some plans whereby the Federation might successfully carry on this work in Longview. The splendid work being done by the free children's dental clinic of the Texarkana Junior league was related by the speaker who suggested that members of the Federation health committee go to Texarkana and confer with the Junior league officers on the methods they have used in carrying out this project.

In receiving the reports from the various committee heads, Mrs. R. L.

Speight, chairman of the educational committee, stated that the organization of the Twentieth Century club, which had been sponsored by the Federation, had been completed and that the group would start their regular meetings in the fall. The organization of the Longview Art club was also fostered by the Federation.

Mrs. R. E. McSwain, chairman of the finance committee reported that the Shakespeare club, Philomathia club, Music club, Little Theatre, Sigma Gamma and Alpha Beta Delphians and the Junior Music club had already given "benefit" entertainments with proceeds donated to the building fund and that all other member clubs had announced money raising plans to be carried out later. The "mile of pennies" project is being met with enthusiasm by the club members who are rapidly filling up their little red penny bags.

In her closing remarks, Miss Kelly stated that with such splendid results realized from the short season behind them, the members of the Federation should look into next year with enthusiasm and certainly with no discouragement. She urged that the clubs try to avoid having a crowded program during the next club year as had by necessity been the case this spring.

## Building Fund Is Discussed at Club Meeting

### Woman's Federation Hears Reports on Progress of Work

At the meeting of the Federation of Women's clubs Tuesday afternoon, many interesting reports were made by club representatives concerning various activities planned for the support of the Federation building. More definite explanation of the plan for obtaining a "mile of pennies" was given by the finance committee. Little sacks will be made and given to the club members and each one will be asked to fill her sack with twenty feet of pennies.

The educational committee reported that work is going forward towards the re-organization of a girl scout troop here. It was stated that Mrs. Purlington had consented to take charge of the troop.

The health committee announced that they were cooperating with the county health department.

# No. 1

Through a spirit of cooperation and in appreciation of the efforts being put forth by the women of Longview for the betterment of the community, GLOVER'S will give the Federation of Women's Clubs

ONE-FIFTH OF ITS INCOME FOR THE ENTIRE WEEK

Every garment you send to Glover's this week to be cleaned and pressed will help the good women of the city to raise sufficient funds for their new club-house. This should be Loyalty Week on your part, because the club-house is indeed a civic need. Members of the various clubs affiliated with the Federation will be working for us, for you and for Longview this week. GIVE THEM YOUR UNQUALIFIED SUPPORT!

## LONGVIEW FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS MEETS AT LOYAL DAUGHTERS HALL

The Longview Federation of Women's clubs met at the Loyal Daughters hall Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs. Emory Boring, vice president, presided over the meeting in the absence of the president, Miss Virginia Kelly.

Definite plans were completed for the monthly bridge tournaments, sponsored by the federation, to be held the third Thursday in each month at the Gregg hotel.

Mrs. Tom Richardson, tournament chairman urged the ladies to dispense with all other activities on tournament days.

Mrs. W. D. Northcutt, Jr., member of the finance board, was made chairman of special activities.

The club expressed thanks to Glover's Cleaners and to those helping to make the cleaning campaign a success.

# Women Here Devise Unique Ways Of Raising Money For A Building

The Longview Federation of Women's clubs, its member clubs and individuals, have devised many unusual and unique ways of getting cash to be used for the construction of the proposed Women's club building here.

Many of the methods used to bring in cash get only nickels and dimes at a time. The ingenious plans worked by the member clubs have placed in the treasury to date approximately \$2,000, according to Miss Virginia Kelly, president of the Federated club organization.

Although the club does not have enough money to begin plans on the building, Mrs. J. W. Falvey has been named chairman of the house committee to select a possible site for the proposed building.

Vanishing teas, benefit bridge parties, food sales and rummage sales

are only a few of the methods used to raise cash for the project, Miss Kelly reports. The club has been working on the project for approximately a year.

A vanishing tea is carried out somewhat like this schedule: one lady decides to give such a tea. She invites three of her friends. These three friends invite three of their friends, and so on, ad infinitum, until practically the entire town has been invited to attend.

The point is, that everyone attending is to bring 10 cents as an admission fee, or more if they wish.

In holding a food sale, the selling of the food on the streets from a stand, in front of some store, is only a part of the work attached. The women have to prepare the food, and

make it attractive, enough so it will be bought. It often consists of sandwiches, cookies and various kinds of candies. Sometimes, flowers are sold in this manner.

Benefit bridge parties have brought in a considerable amount. Dues from various clubs have added more cash. The sale of subscriptions to magazines has swelled the deposits.

Each member club in the federation is supposed to do its part in the raising of the required amount to finance the building. Many clubs have raised more cash than their quota called for, it is said.

Various plans are now being worked out for raising additional cash. Miss Kelly says the clubs will continue an active campaign to finance the club building, and get work started as soon as possible.

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## 'Vanishing Teas' Holding Social Spotlight Now As Raise Funds For Building

Five years ago a visitor to the city who promenade the streets of Longview and noted little knots of automobiles in front of this or that social leader's home would have known without asking that their owners were in the respective drawing-rooms struggling with the intricacies of contract. Today the same sort of intuition would tell him that the same clusters of cars represent gatherings for "vanishing teas."

For the past week society has centered around the teas being given by members of the various federated clubs.

The teas are being given for the purpose of raising funds for the women's building to be erected at an early date by the Longview Federation of Women's clubs.

They will be continued through the month of February and it is hoped that a creditable amount of money will be derived from this source of entertainment.

Those who entertained small groups the past week were:

Mrs. R. L. Speight, Miss Virginia Kelly, Mrs. R. O. Kenley, Mrs. D. B. McPherson, Mrs. Emory Boring, Mrs. Roger Gibbs, Mrs. Curtis Morris, Mrs. B. D. Hampton, Mrs. H. Gatlin, Mrs. Tyson Cleary, Mrs. Hu-

bert Braden, Mrs. J. W. Falvey, Mrs. J. C. Byars, Mrs. T. J. Costello, Mrs. L. L. Mosley, Mrs. T. H. Freeman, Mrs. A. V. Grant, Mrs. D. E. Black, Mrs. L. E. Pruthi, Mrs. A. W. Shaw, Mrs. Gus Glasscock, Mrs. H. C. Hite, Miss Berenice Northcutt, Mrs. S. A. Parker, Miss Vida Holt, Mrs. J. T. McRee, Mrs. G. G. McKellar, Mrs. J. M. Whitworth, Mrs. A. L. Connor, Mrs. M. A. Reinberger, Mrs. Percy Zimmerman, Mrs. G. C. Fofman, Mrs. Tom Richardson, Mrs. Herman Whitehurst, Mrs. Lloyd Stephens, Miss Lucille Morgan, Mrs. Jack Barnes and Mrs. Buck Hinesman.

## Local Women's Club is Told of Work Progress

Excellent reports from the various member clubs were received Tuesday afternoon at the meeting of the Longview Federation of Women's clubs. It was announced that approximately \$300 had been cleared from the Woman's minstrel which was given recently by the federation.

Several new projects are to be undertaken in the near future and the club representatives gave the assurance that the cooperation of the entire membership would be received. The opening day baseball game, to be held Friday, is commanding the attention of the federation at present as a part of the proceeds will be given to the organization for its building fund. Every club woman is selling tickets for this event.

## WOMEN'S MINSTREL SHOW AGAIN OUTSTANDING SUCCESS IN LONGVIEW SOCIAL CIRCLE

Entertainment Galore Given Audience at Performance for Benefit of Club Building Fund

The All-Woman Minstrel, presented by the Longview Federation of Women's clubs to a capacity audience Friday evening in the Junior High School auditorium, undoubtedly was the most successful blackface affair ever given locally. The woman production clicked with the public and proved that the feminine sex knows its blackface.

Despite the fact that the cast boasted an adult assemblage of 333, its juvenile members won plaudits and recognition, even going so far at times as "stealing" the show. Bobby Jean Bartle executed a difficult acrobatic dance gracefully and with poise. Taking a song number that has become routine matter because of excessive usage, Eleanor Red LeBus put "The Little Red School House" across with a freshness and naturalness enjoyable to the ear. Blanche Birdsong presented a novelty dance routine. These were all pupils of Miss June Shivers.

The "Pickaninies," Lorraine Pryor, Kitty Herrin, Pansy Jones, Janie Swinney, Betty June Oldham, Joan Bowman and Phyllis Phillips, furnished one of the most amusing features on the program. They are all members of Miss Una Belle Howard's dancing class. Lorraine Pryor also gave a specialty song number, "Shanty in Old Shanty Town."

It was the business of the four "end men," Miss Jeanette Wright, Mrs. B. H. Acker, Miss Addie Maye Glover and Mrs. Tom Richardson, to carry the burden of jokes and maintain tempo. They are all local stage favorites and furnished a major part of the reasons for laughter.

Employing some of the hit tunes of the day and revising and localizing them for local favor was a new turn in minstrel technique. Miss Jeanette Wright warbling "Did You Ever See a Dream Walking" with revised lyrics, and Mrs. Tom Richardson singing "You're Gonna Lose Your Gal" brought chuckles and applause from the audience. Miss Louise Ward revealed an excellent singing voice in a solo number. Mrs. Agnes Pryor was the sensation of the program as usual. She sang "Dark Town Striker's Ball," husky, deep-throated voice and all, and received for an encore of the same song.

"Sweet Georgin Brown," Richardson, "Mighty Lal" and Mrs. Tyson Cleary, "Blues" to advantage.

"Sweet Mama" was a song by "Tree Top Tall," Maye Glover, and "Little Lor," Mrs. D. S. Meredith.

The Aunt Jemimas, J. Boring, Mrs. Robert Wo. D. Abernathy, Mrs. H. C. Oscar Wood, Miss Lucia Mrs. E. H. Hamilton, their share of the laughs, and was in charge of the this group.

Other members of the Circle' were Mrs. Oliver L. E. Prothro, Mrs. Clauv Huns, Mrs. J. C. Byers, Crawford, Mrs. G. E. O. Baxter Myers, Mrs. E. Mrs. J. A. Eason, Mrs. L. Mrs. Gibbs, Mrs. Wal Mrs. Thomas D. Campbell Grant, Mrs. Bowen and Slade.

The performance included on the courtroom "Common Clay," done rhythm and given indication of Mrs. Buck H. players in the sequence Ray W. Veale, Mrs. F. Mrs. Sidney Latham, A. Parker, Mrs. K. C. K. Presley McGough, Mrs. ens and Miss Bess Broad.

A black faced, modern Juliet," with Mrs. Edw. Miss Frances Thomas, the program. This was Mrs. Ray W. Veale. Miss Kinley gave a humorous "The Black Blue Grass" Miss Virginia Kelly, the Federation, was in general direction.

# Federated Club Building for Longview Assured; Gregg County Commissioners' Court and Women's Clubs Sign Contract

The much discussed Federated Club Building and community center for Longview was finally assured Friday afternoon when the Gregg County Commissioners' Court and the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs signed a contract under the terms of which the county will erect the building and the women's clubs will operate it under a lease from the county for a period of 20 years.

Under the terms of the contract the Federation will give the county a deed to its property at North and Second Streets and the county in return will erect the building. The county will not spend more than the \$25,000 it had previously agreed upon in construction of the building, but the clubs have some \$8,000 or more which they are expected to apply to the construction of the building to bring the total cost to approximately \$35,000.

County Judge Merritt H. Gibson turned the first spadeful of ground on the site of the new \$37,232 Longview Community Center building at Second and North streets Wednesday afternoon.

McKinley Bros. Construction Co., which has the contract for the attractive building, was to begin laying the foundation Thursday morning. The contract which Judge Gibson signed for the county this week calls for completion within 120 calendar days.

The brief ground-breaking ceremonies were attended by a group of officials and members of the Longview Federation of Women's clubs who were realizing a dream of several years.

Among the representatives of the women's organization were: Mrs. Charles Drake, president; Mrs. J. C. Francis, chairman of the building committee; Mrs. G. G. McKellar, Mrs. T. W. Swiley, Mrs. Thomas E.

Richardson, Miss Dolly Northcutt at Mrs. Sidney Latham, all members of the committee.

Others who were present: Will Hurst, past president of the chamber of commerce; O. L. Norton, chairman of the original chamber of commerce building committee; J. E. Montgomery, chairman of the present building committee, and P. E. Zimmerman at W. E. Morgan, architects.

County Commissioner W. D. Northcutt Jr., who has played a prominent part in work for the project since it was undertaken, was out of the city and unable to attend the ceremonies.

John Nelson, superintendent of construction, said material for preliminary work on the building is on hand. The county will pay \$30,000 of the total cost of the project. The women's organization is making up the difference and will furnish the building and maintain it for public use return for a 20-year lease.

## Ground Broken For Building Here



County Judge Merritt H. Gibson is shown turning the first shovel of dirt in ground-breaking ceremonies on the site of the new Longview Community Center building. Mrs. Charles Drake, president of the Longview Federation of Women's clubs, which is paying part of the cost of the building and furnishing it, is on the judge's right. The woman on the left is Mrs. J. C. Francis, chairman of the building committee of the federation.

# COMMUNITY CENTER BUILDING LAUNCHED IN BRIEF CEREMONY

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## Construction Of Community Center Building Started

### Ceremony of Turning First Spadeful of Earth Held Wednesday P. M.

Judge Merritt Gibson, representing Gregg County, Mrs. Charles Drake, president of the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, and Mrs. J. C. Francis, chairman of the Building Committee of the Federation, last Wednesday afternoon placed their hands on the spade that turned the first shovelful of earth for the excavating for the new Community Center Building to be erected on the lot immediately south of the Longview Senior High School Building, donated by the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs for that purpose.

John Nelson, contractor for the McKinley Brothers Lumber Company, who will erect the building, states that he expects to have the building ready for occupancy by the latter part of April.

The Federated Women's Clubs that have been meeting in the wooden structure on the lot will meet in various places during the time the building is under construction. Plans are for the Music Clubs and the Fine Arts Club to meet in one of the Sunday School rooms of the Baptist Church where the piano will be available for musical numbers. Study clubs will meet in the City Commission Room of the City Hall, which the City of Longview has so graciously placed at their disposal.

Among those present for ground-breaking ceremonies were members of the Building Committee and officers of the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, Mrs. G. G. Kellar, Mrs. W. Swiley, Mrs. W. M. Cole, Mrs. Sidney Latham, Mrs. Tom R. Anderson, Mrs. Drake and Mrs. Francis; Judge Will C. Hurst, L. Norton, J. E. Montgomery, Percy Zimmerman, Bill Morgan, S. A. Parker, and Grady Ship; The building of a Community Center has been a project of Longview Federation of Women's Clubs for the last five years, the earnest efforts of the clubs both collectively and individually, have been directed toward raising of funds for such a building. The lot was purchased by a wooden building donated by the First Methodist Church moved onto the lot and used as a meeting place for the clubs three and a half years ago. The same wooden building has been donated by the Federation to colored women of Longview to be used by them as an active building.

GROUND WAS broken Wednesday afternoon for the new community center building, for which the Kinley Construction Company contractor and Zimmerman Morgan the architects... The joyous occasion for a group of women, including Mrs. Charles Drake and Mrs. J. C. Francis... Mrs. Drake is president of the Federated Clubs, and Francis is chairman of the building committee... It will be recalled that Mrs. Francis served two terms as president, and did a great deal of work toward the completion of the project... All members of the crowd on hand for the ground-breaking ceremony regretted the absence of WILLIE NORTHCUTT, Longview county commissioner, who is out of town on business.

# LONGVIEW FEDERATION OF WOMAN'S CLUB MAKES PLANS FOR COMING MONTH'S WORK

The Longview Federation of Women's clubs, at its initial meeting of this club year held Friday afternoon at the Gregg hotel, reviewed its splendid record of achievement for the past nine months of its existence and outlined interesting plans for the 1934-35 program.

The Federation is steadfastly working toward the construction of a creditable woman's building for Longview and it was with pardonable pride that it was announced that since last March, when the club's activity fund was raised towards the realization of this goal. During the hot summer months the women refused to remain inactive and carried out three projects, the presentation of a play, "The Drunkard," sponsoring of a cooking

school, and solicitation of magazine subscriptions, which netted over \$300 for the building.

The building committee was requested to make investigations comprising the selection of a lot or a lot and house, and also possible means of financing such a purchase.

Included in plans announced for the coming year were a series of monthly bridge tournaments and the continuation of the "ponny bags." Projects of cultural benefit to the community as well as various other schemes for increasing the building fund comprise the tentative program of the federation.

A fine spirit of cooperation was evidenced on the part of the club women as they pledged their services and heartily endorsed the federation program.

# COMMUNITY CENTER PROGRAM ARRANGED

## Dedication Ceremony Next Tuesday Will Be Part Of Friendly Trek Program Here

The complete program for the dedication of Longview's new community center building Tuesday at 10 a. m. was announced Thursday by Mrs. Charles Drake, president of the Federation of Women's clubs, and County Judge Merritt H. Gibson.

Dedication of the building, which is a part of the Friendly Trek celebration, will be the realization of more than 20 years of planning and dreams of the women's clubs of Longview. Workmen were putting the finishing touches on the building Thursday. It is expected to be completed by Monday when it will be open to the public for the first time.

Grady Shipp, manager of the Longview Chamber of Commerce, will act as master of ceremonies at the dedication. The invocation will be by Rev. J. E. Montgomery of the First

Christian church. The invocation will be followed by piano selections by members of the Schubert Evening musicale.

Miss Virginia Kelly, first president of the federation of women's clubs, will review the years of effort and planning that have gone into the building.

The program will continue in the following order: music by the Longview Music club; Mrs. Ray Martin, director, and Mrs. Lawrence Birdsong and Miss Verla Eckman, accompanists; introduction of the federation's past presidents, Miss Kelly, Mrs. Emory Borling, and Mrs. J. C. Francis; music by the Fine Arts club, Mrs. Agie Curtis, Mrs. W. O. Whiteside, and Mrs. Irwin Fleetwood; introduction of members of the county commissioners court.

Judge Gibson will make the official presentation of the lease on the building by the county to the Federation of Women's clubs. It will be accepted by Mrs. Drake.

The benediction will be by Rev. Hal Cunningham, pastor of the Wesleyan Methodist church. Introductory music will be furnished by the violin choir with David Hansard as director and Mrs. Borling as accompanist.

# Longview Federation Of Women's Club Holds Open Meeting Here Tuesday At Community Center

Another interesting period in the history of Federation of Women's clubs came to a close Tuesday afternoon with an open meeting well attended by Federation officers, club president delegates.

The business session was held in the Community Center building and conducted by the retiring president, Mrs. Chas. B. Drake. Reports were given by club presidents, or representatives, Federation officers and committee chairmen. These reports were filled with worthwhile activities and interesting events which have taken place in the past year.

Mrs. J. E. Ford, building hostess, reported there had been 519 regular club meetings and four conventions held in the building this year. A permanent replacement fund of \$1500, for the care of the Community Center building, was created and it was voted to invest this money in defense bonds.

The following grounds committee was named: Mesdames J. N. Saye, chairman, H. O. Gossett, Sr., and John Wrather.

Mrs. Drake graciously thanked the retiring officers and committee chairmen for their work this past two years. She then turned the meeting to Miss Virginia Kelly, who also thanked the officers and especially commended Mrs. Drake for her untiring work. It was under the guidance of Mrs. Drake that the new building was secured and completed. Miss Kelly remarked the group that for the first time officers were being installed in the new club home, which building is a tangible proof of the labors of the federated clubs of Longview.

In a most impressive ceremony the following officers were installed: president, Mrs. Earl Roberts; vice president, Mrs. L. Speight; recording secretary, H. L. Taylor; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Guy Lamb; treasurer, Mrs. Ras Young; custodian of records, Mrs. T. W. Swick.

ley; parliamentarian, M. Messner.

A delightful program, a Mrs. L. E. Polhro, program, was given by the Young of Longview who have the city at the various of East Texas and Louisiana.

Misses Billy Jean Flaming musical reading accompanied by Geo. Ballard at the piano. Frances Bisline, pianist, Grace Yarbrough, reader, Jones, vocal solo accompanied piano by Mrs. Millar Brown. Lotte Ghissom, Mildred Daisic.

After the program the meal punch and dainty cakes. table was laid with a lace decorated with a beautiful la of spring flowers.

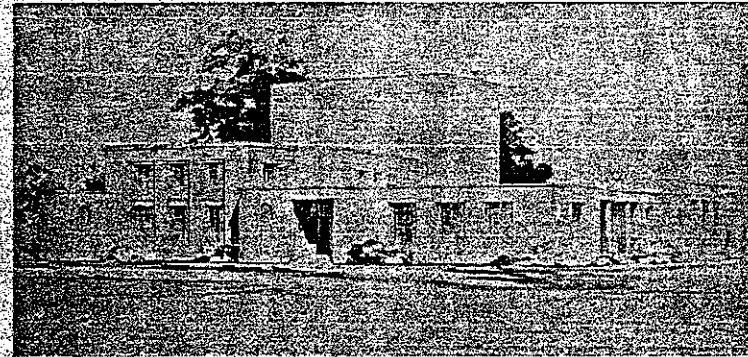
Sixth Anniversary

LONGVIEW FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

Luncheon

January 26, 1940  
Baracca Hall  
First Methodist Church

# DEDICATION



LONGVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER BUILDING

MAY 14, 1940

# PROGRAM

## *Master of Ceremonies*

Grady Shipp, Manager Longview Chamber of Commerce

## *Invocation*

Rev. J. E. Montgomery

## *Music by Schubert Evening Musicals*

Two Pianos—(eight hands)

"2nd Valse"—(By Goddard)

## *History of Longview Community Center Building*

Miss Virginia Kelly

## *Music by Longview Music Club*

"Wynken, Blynken, and Nod"

(By Ethelbert Nevin)

Mrs. Ray Martin, Director

Mrs. Lawrence Birdsong and Verta Eckman, Accompanists

## *Introduction of Club Presidents*

### *Music by Fine Arts Club*

Violin Trio—Mrs. Algje Curtis

Mrs. W. O. Whiteside

Mrs. Irwin Fleetwood

"Praeludium" (By Zaurecrik)

Mrs. Volla Downing, Accompanist

## *Introduction of Members of Commissioners Court*

### *Presentation of Lease on Building*

By Judge Merritt H. Gibson

### *Acceptance of Lease*

By Mrs. Charles B. Drake, President  
Longview Federation of Womens Clubs

### *Benediction*

By Rev. Hal Cunningham

### *Introductory Music by Violin Choir*

David Hansford, Director

Mrs. Emory Boring, Accompanist

1861  
Sept. 29, 1939  
W.D.

A motion was made by W D Northcutt, Jr and seconded by Roy Leake and unanimously passed by the Court to adopt the following Contract for the Community Center Building to be erected in the City of Longview. This contract is not to be final until the District Attorney submits a written approval of said Contract the Commissioners' Court.

STATE OF TEXAS |  
COUNTY OF GREGG |

WHEREAS, the Commissioners' Court of Gregg County has made an appropriation of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) in the 1939-40 Budget for the construction of a Community Building in Longview and has made the necessary tax levy in connection therewith; and

WHEREAS, the present and prospective future condition of the County General Fund does not justify the imposition of maintenance costs of the building on said fund, and the Commissioners' Court is desirous of relieving the General Fund of such burden and at the same time provide Longview with a Community Center Building for the use and benefit of the general public; and

WHEREAS, the Longview Federation of Women's Club, a Corporation, owns all that certain lot, tract, or parcel of land out of the northwest corner of Block No. 87, according to the New City Map, of the City of Longview, in Gregg County, Texas:

BEGINNING at the N W corner of said Block No. 87; Thence South with the East Line of Second St., 100 Feet to stake for corner; Thence East 130 ft. stake for corner; Thence North 100 ft., stake for corner on the South line of North St; Thence West 130 ft. with the South Line of North St., to the place of beginning, same being the North 100 ft. of Lots Nos. 9, 10, and the West 22 x 100 ft. of Lot 8 in Block 87, and fronting 130 ft. on North St., and extending back 100 ft on Second street as fully described in Deed from J.C. Turner, Jr., and wife, to the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc., on the 20th day of April, 1935, said deed being recorded in Vol. 184, Page 275, Deed Records of Gregg County, Texas;

and is desirous of having access to a building for meeting purposes, and of having a building with an auditorium for the use of the general public of Longview and Gregg County; and

has within its immediate and prospective control the sum of approximately Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00).

NOW, THEREFORE, Gregg County, acting by and through the Commissioners' Court, hereinafter styled party of the first part, and the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, a Corporation, hereinafter called Party of the Second Part, hereby enter into the following agreement:

FIRST: Party of the Second Part agrees to immediately convey to party of the first part by general warranty deed fee simple title to the above described real property.

SECOND: Party of the first part agrees to construct on said property a Community Center Building and Auditorium according to plans and specifications approved in writing by the parties hereto, provided, however, that party of the first part shall not expend in such construction more than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) appropriated for that purpose, and provided further that if the contract price of such building shall exceed said sum, party of the second part shall deposit the difference between \$25,000.00 and the contract price with the County Treasurer of Gregg County before the contract for the construction of said building is executed.

THIRD: Party of the second part agrees that it will, out of any funds that may be available, buy the initial equipment for such building, to retain the ownership of such personal property, and after purchase to supply the County Judge of Gregg County with an inventory of such furniture, fixtures, and equipment, showing the cost price of each item thereof.

FOURTH: Upon completion of the building, and its approval by the architect and acceptance by the Commissioners' Court of Gregg County, party of the first part agrees to lease said building to party of the second part for a period of twenty years (20), the form of such lease contract being attached hereto, marked "Exhibit A" and made a part hereof.

WITNESS OUR HANDS at Longview, Texas, this, the 29th day of September, A. D. 1939.

GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS,  
Party of the First Part.

By. The Commissioners' Court of  
Gregg County.

Merritt H. Gibson,  
County Judge.

W. D. Northcutt, Jr.  
Commissioner Precinct No. 1.

A. F. Sheppard,  
Commissioner Precinct No. 2.

Earl Smith,  
Commissioner Precinct No. 3.

Roy Leake,  
Commissioner Precinct No. 4.

THE LONGVIEW FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S  
CLUBS, A CORPORATION.  
Party of the Second Part.

By. Mrs. J. W. Falvey,  
Chairman of Corporation.

Mrs. G. G. McKellar,  
Secretary of Corporation.

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF GREGG

This indenture, made the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_\_, between Gregg County, acting by and through the Commissioners' Court of said County, lessor, and The Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc., lessee, Witnesseth that, in consideration of the covenants contained in a certain contract entered into by and between the parties hereto on the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1939, and in consideration of the covenants herein contained on the part of the lessee to be kept and performed, the lessor does hereby demise and lease unto the lessee a certain lot with the buildings thereon **situate, being all that certain lot, tract, or parcel of land** out of the northwest corner of Block No. 87, according to the New City Map, of the City of Longview, in Gregg County, Texas:

Beginning at the N W corner of said Block No. 87; Thence South with the East Line of Second St., 100 Feet to stake for corner; Thence East 130 ft. stake for corner; Thence North 100 ft., stake for corner on the South line of North St.; Thence West 130 ft. with the South Line of North St., to the place of beginning, same being the North 100 ft. of Lots Nos. 9, 10, and the West 22 x 100 ft. of Lot 8 in said Block 87, and fronting 130 ft. on North St., and extending back 100 ft on Second street as fully described in Deed from J. C. Turner, Jr., and wife, to the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc., on the 20th day of April, 1935, said deed being recorded in Vol. 184, Page 275, Deed Records of Gregg County, Texas.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said lot and other premises here-  
by demised unto the lessee from the \_\_\_ day of March, 19\_\_\_, during the full term of twenty (20) years since next ensuing.

Lessor agrees to maintain said building, to furnish necessary janitor service, janitor's supplies, and to pay necessary utility bills until October 1, 1940, provided such expense shall not exceed the sum of \$ 600<sup>00</sup>.

Lessor hereby covenants and agrees that it will pay the insurance premiums on any policies in force covering the building during the primary term of this lease.

Lessee hereby covenants and agrees that, beginning October 1, 1940, it will pay all maintenance costs and operating expenses of said building, except as to insurance premiums provided for above, and that it will during said term keep all and singular the said premises in such repair as the same are in at the commencement of said term, or may be put in by the said lessor during the continuance thereof, reasonable use and wearing thereof, and damage by accidental fire, or inevitable accident only excepted.

It is expressly agreed and understood that said building is not to be for the exclusive use and benefit of lessee, but said premises shall at all times be available for public purposes. However, it is expressly agreed that lessee shall have the right to make a reasonable charge for the use of the auditorium or other portion of the building; said charge to cover only operating costs incident to the use thereof.

It is agreed and understood that in the event of termination of this lease, by agreement or otherwise, lessor agrees to reimburse lessee for the cost of said lot in the sum of Thirty-Five Hundred Dollars (\$35,00.00). In that event, lessor also agrees to purchase the furniture, fixtures, and equipment in said building owned by lessee provided that lessor shall not pay a sum in excess of the cost price less depreciation. But it is expressly agreed and understood that the sum of

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ heretofore deposited in the County Treasury

of Gregg County by Lessee in accordance with the contract heretofore entered into by the parties hereto shall be considered as rent paid in advance for the primary term of this lease and in the event of termination of this lease, lessor shall not refund to lessee more than the unearned portion of said rent.

It is further stipulated that lessee shall not have the right to assign this lease except with the consent of lessor, evidenced by proper minute of the Commissioners' Court.

It is further agreed that lessee shall have the right to renew this lease at the expiration of the primary term thereof, on the same term herein contained, except that lessee shall pay all insurance premiums.

WITNESS OUR HANDS at Longview, Texas, this, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, A. D. 1939.

GREGG COUNTY, T E X A S  
LESSOR

By: The Commissioners' Court of  
Gregg County

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Judge

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner, Precinct No. 1

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner, Precinct No. 2

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner, Precinct No. 3

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner, Precinct No. 4

THE LONGVIEW FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S  
CLUBS, A CORPORATION, LESSEE

By \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF GREGG

I, Dush Shaw, County Clerk and Ex Officio Clerk of the Commissioners' Court of Gregg County, Texas, do hereby certify that the within and foregoing matter of writing is a true and correct copy of a original minute passed by the Commissioners Court of Gregg County, Texas on the 29th day of September, 1939. Said minute is of record in Volume "G" on Pages 508-510, Minutes of the Commissioners Court of Gregg County, Texas.

Given under my hand and the seal of the Commissioners' Court at office in Longview, Texas, this the 5th day of October A D 1939.

DUSH SHAW

County Clerk and Ex Officio  
Clerk of the Commissioners'  
Court of Gregg County, Texas.

Seal

By B. McCallan Deputy



Dec. 23 1939

MINUTES OF THE OFFICIAL MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LONGVIEW FEDERATION OF  
WOMEN'S CLUBS, INCORPORATED, HELD DECEMBER 23, 1939

The Board of Directors met in special meeting at 9:30

A. M., December 23, 1939, with the following officers and

Board members present:

Mrs. J. W. Halvey - President, and Chairman of  
the Board of Directors.

Mrs. C. G. McKeller-Secretary

Mrs. Curtis Morris  
Miss Dolly Northcutt  
Mrs. W. M. Cole  
Mrs. Maurice Bivins  
Mrs. Hardy Cook  
Mrs. Hubert M. Harrison  
Mrs. Sidney Latham  
Mrs. Tom Richardson  
Mrs. J. C. Francis  
Mrs. Chas. B. Drake  
Mrs. J. N. Saye  
Mrs. E. R. McWhorter

Mrs. W. M. Cole. \_\_\_\_\_ offered and moved the adoption  
of the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, Incorporated, on or about the 20th day of September, 1939, entered into a contract with Gregg County, acting by and through the Commissioners' Court of said County, whereby said Federation agreed to convey to Gregg County by General warranty deed fee simple title to the following described property, to wit:

All that certain lot, tract, or parcel of land, out of the northwest corner of Block No. 87, according to the New City Map, of the City of Longview, in Gregg County, Texas;  
BEGINNING at the N. W. corner of said Block No. 87; THENCE South with the East line of Second St., 100 ft. to stake for corner; THENCE East 130 ft., stake for corner; THENCE North 100 ft., stake for corner on the south line of North St.; THENCE West 130 ft. with the south line of North St., to the place of beginning.  
Same being the north 100 ft. of Lots Nos. 9, 10 and the west 22 x 100 ft. of Lot 6 in said Block 87, and fronting 130 ft. on North Street and extending back 100 ft. on Second Street.

which contract is of record in Volume G., pages 508-510,  
Minutes of the Commissioners' Court of Oregon County;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, Incorporated, that Mrs. J. W. Falvey, President and Chairman of the Board of Directors of said Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, Incorporated, be and is hereby authorized to execute a General Warranty Deed to Oregon County covering the above described property in conformity with the contract referred to above, and that a copy of this resolution be attached to said Deed.

The motion to adopt was seconded by Miss Dolly Northcutt and upon being put to a vote, was unanimously adopted.

The above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, Incorporated, at a special meeting held December 23, 1939, with a quorum present.

Given under our hands and seal this, the 23rd day of December, A. D., 1939.

ATTEST:

*Mrs. J. W. Falvey*  
President of the Longview Federation  
of Women's Clubs, Inc., and Chairman  
of the Board of Directors.

SECRETARY

Dec. 23, 1939

THE STATE OF TEXAS |  
COUNTY OF GREGG |

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, Incorporated, a corporation duly incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas, the principal office whereof being at Longview, in said County and State, for and in consideration of the sum of Ten Dollars (\$10.00) to it in hand paid by Gregg County, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged and confessed, have GRANTED, SOLD AND CONVEYED, and by these presents do GRANT, SELL AND CONVEY unto the said Gregg County the following described property, to wit:

All that certain lot, tract, or parcel of land out of the northwest corner of Block No. 87, according to the New City Map, of the City of Longview in Gregg County, Texas: BEGINNING at the N. W. corner of said Block No. 87; THENCE South with the East line of Second St., 100 ft. to stake for corner; THENCE North East 130 ft., stake for corner; THENCE North 100 ft., stake for corner on the south line of North St., THENCE West 150 ft. with the south line of North St., to the place of beginning. Same being the north 100 ft. of Lots Nos. 9, 10, and the West 22 x 100 ft. of Lot 8 in said Block No. 87, and fronting 130 ft. on North Street and extending back 100 ft. on Second Street.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the above described premises together with all and singular the rights and appurtenances thereto in any wise belonging unto the said County of Gregg, State of Texas, and its assigns forever, and the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, Incorporated, do hereby warrant and forever defend all and singular the said land and premises unto the said County of Gregg, State of Texas, and its assigns against every person whomsoever lawfully claiming, or to claim, the same or any part thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, Incorporated, have caused these presents to be signed by Mrs. J. W. Falvey, its president, hereunto authorized by a vote of said corporation, a copy of which is hereto annexed, and its common seal hereto affixed this 23rd day of December, A. D., 1935.

THE LONGVIEW FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS, INCORPORATED

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
President

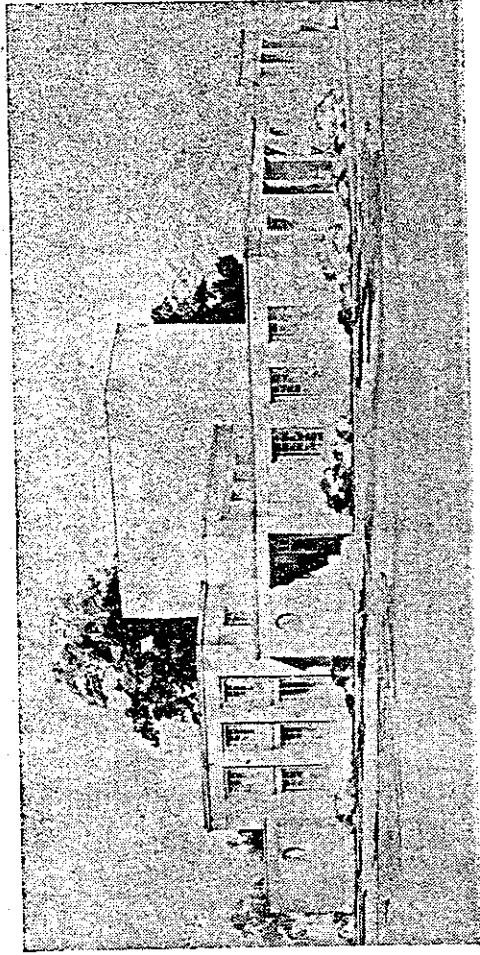
The State of Texas |  
County of Gregg |

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for Gregg County, Texas, on this day personally appeared Mrs. J. W. Falvey, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that she executed the same as the act and deed of the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, Incorporated, of Longview, Texas, and as the president thereof, and for the purposes and considerations therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this  
23rd day of December, A. D., 1935.

NOTARY PUBLIC IN AND FOR  
Gregg County, Texas

DEDICATION

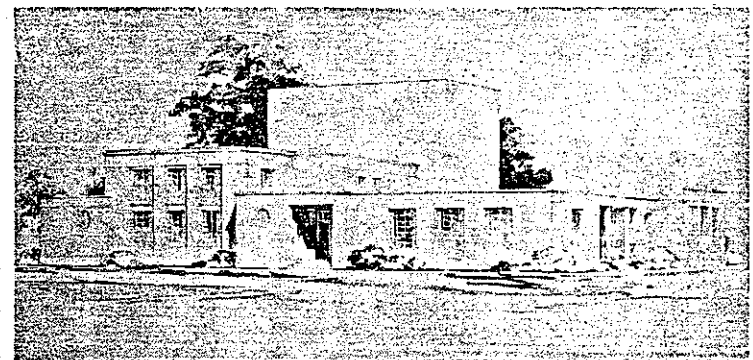


LONGVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER BUILDING

MAY 14, 1940

May 14, 1940

# DEDICATION



LONGVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER BUILDING

MAY 14, 1940

# PROGRAM

*Master of Ceremonies*

Grady Shipp, Manager Longview Chamber of Commerce

*Invocation*

Rev. J. E. Montgomery

*Music by Schubert Evening Musicale*

Two Pianos—(eight hands)

"2nd Valse"—(By Goddard)

*History of Longview Community Center Building*

Miss Virginia Kelly

*Music by Longview Music Club*

"Wynken, Blynken, and Nod"

(By Ethelbert Nevin)

Mrs. Ray Martin, Director

Mrs. Lawrence Birdsong and Verta Eckman, Accompanists

*Introduction of Club Presidents*

*Music by Fine Arts Club*

Violin Trio—Mrs. Algie Curtis

Mrs. W. O. Whiteside

Mrs. Irwin Fleetwood

"Praeludium" (By Zaurecrik)

Mrs. Volle Downing, Accompanist

*Introduction of Members of Commissioners Court*

*Presentation of Lease on Building*

By Judge Merritt H. Gibson

*Acceptance of Lease*

By Mrs. Charles E. Drake, President

Longview Federation of Womens Clubs

*Benediction*

By Rev. Hal Cunningham

*Introductory Music by Violin Choir*

David Hansford, Director

Mrs. Emory Boring, Accompanist

June 11, 1940

STATE OF TEXAS |  
COUNTY OF GREGG |

This indenture, made the 11th day of June, 1940, between Gregg County, acting by and through the Commissioners' Court of said County, lessor, and The Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc., lessee, Witnesseth that, in consideration of the covenants contained in a certain contract entered into by and between the parties hereto on the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1939, and in consideration of the covenants herein contained on the part of the lessee to be kept and performed, the lessor does hereby demise and lease unto the lessee a certain lot with the buildings thereon situated, being all that certain lot, tract, or parcel of land out of the northwest corner of Block No. 87, according to the New City Map, of the City of Longview, in Gregg County, Texas;

Beginning at the NW corner of said Block No. 87; Thence South with the East Line of Second St., 100 Feet to stake for corner; Thence East 130 ft. stake for corner; Thence North 100 ft., stake for corner on the South line of North St.; Thence West 130 ft. with the South line of North St., to the place of beginning, same being the North 100 ft. of Lots Nos. 9, 10, and the West 22 x 100 ft. of Lot 2 in said Block 87, and fronting 130 ft. on North St., and extending back 100 ft. on Second street as fully described in Deed from J. O. Turner, Jr., and wife, to the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc., on the 20th day of April, 1938, said deed being recorded in Vol. 124, Page 276, Deed Records of Gregg County, Texas.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said lot and other premises hereby demised unto the lessee from the 11 day of June, 1940 during the full term of twenty (20) years thence next ensuing.

Lessor agrees to maintain said building, to furnish necessary janitor service, janitor's supplies, and to pay necessary utility bills until October 1, 1940, provided such expense shall not exceed the sum of Six Hundred Dollars (\$600.00).

It is further agreed that the sum of \$1776.45 will be returned immediately to lessee by lessor, that amount being available after meeting lessor's obligation for the construction of said building.

The lessee having furnished or having obligated itself to furnish certain equipment in the building that is more or less permanently affixed to said building, lessor hereby retains the option for one year from date to purchase said furnishings of equipment from lessee at cost price.

Lessor hereby covenants and agrees that it will pay the insurance premiums on any policies in force covering the building during the primary term of this lease.

Lessee hereby covenants and agrees that, beginning October 1, 1940, it will pay all maintenance costs and operating expenses of said building, except as to insurance premiums provided for above, and that it will during said term keep all and singular the said premises in such repair as the same are in at the commencement of said term, or may be put in by the said lessor during the continuance thereof, reasonable use and wearing thereof, and damage by accidental fire, or inevitable accident only excepted.

It is expressly agreed and understood that said building is not to be for the exclusive use and benefit of lessee, but said premises shall at all times be available for public purposes. However, it is expressly agreed that lessee shall have the right to make a reasonable charge for the use of the auditorium or other portion of the building; said charge to cover only operating costs incident to the use thereof.

It is agreed and understood that in the event of termination of this lease, by agreement or otherwise, lessor agrees to reimburse lessee for the cost of said lot in the sum of Thirty-Five Hundred Dollars (\$3,500.00). In that event, lessor also agrees to purchase the furniture, fixtures, and equipment in said building owned by lessee provided that lessor shall not pay a sum in excess of the cost price less depreciation. But it is expressly agreed and understood that the sum of Four Thousand Eight Hundred Forty Two & no/100 (\$4,842.00) Dollars (less the sum of One Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy Six & 45/100 (\$1,776.45) Dollars hereinafter mentioned) heretofore deposited in the County Treasury of Gregg County by lessee in accordance with the contract heretofore entered into by the parties hereto shall be considered as rent paid in advance for the primary term of this lease and in the event of termination of this lease, lessor shall not refund to lessee more than the unearned portion of said rent.

It is further stipulated that lessee shall not have the right to assign this lease except with the consent of lessor, evidenced by proper minute of the Commissioners' Court.

It is further agreed that lessee shall have the right to renew this lease at the expiration of the primary term thereof, on the same terms herein contained, except that lessee shall pay all insurance premiums.

WITNESS OUR HANDS at Longview, Texas, this, \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, A. D., 1940.

GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS - LESSOR

By: The Commissioners' Court  
of Gregg County, Texas.

COUNTY JUDGE

*W. H. H. H. H. H.*  
Commissioner - Precinct No. 1

*F. G. H. H. H.*  
Commissioner - Precinct No. 2

Commissioner - Precinct No. 3

*Ray Beate*  
Commissioner - Precinct No. 4

THE LONGVIEW FEDERATION OF  
WOMEN'S CLUBS, A CORPORATION-LESSEE

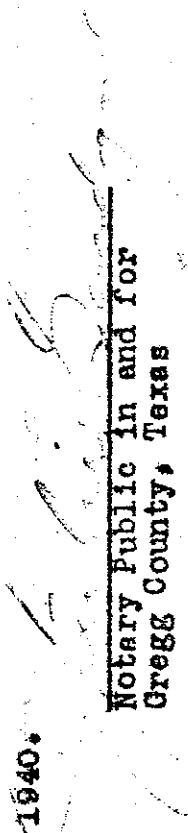
By: *Mr. J. W. Talley, Attorney*  
*Mr. G. G. Mc Keller - Secretary*

STATE OF TEXAS |  
COUNTY OF GREGG |

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for Gregg County, Texas, on this day personally appeared Mrs. J. W. Falvey, Chairman, and Mrs. G. G. McKellar, Secretary-Treasurer, of the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, A corporation, known to me to be the persons and officers whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that the same was the act of the said Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, a Corporation, and that they executed the same as the act of such corporation for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, and in the capacity therein stated.

Given under my hand and seal of office, this, the

11 day of June, A. D., 1940.

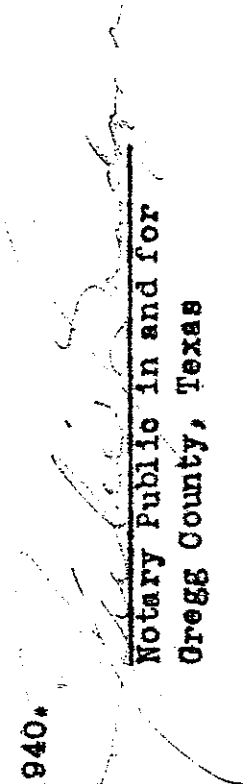
  
Notary Public in and for  
Gregg County, Texas

STATE OF TEXAS |  
COUNTY OF GREGG |

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for Gregg County, Texas, on this day personally appeared W. D. Northcutt, Jr., Commissioner of Precinct No. 1; A. F. Shepperd, Commissioner of Precinct No. 2; Earl Smith, Commissioner of Precinct No. 3; and Roy Leske, Commissioner of Precinct No. 4., of the County of Gregg, known to me to be the persons and officers whose names are subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that the same was the act of the said County of Gregg and that they executed the same as the act of such County for the purposes and consideration therein expressed and in the capacity therein stated.

Given under my hand and seal of office, this, the

11 day of June, A. D., 1940.

  
Notary Public in and for  
Gregg County, Texas

Feb. 13, 1961

THE STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF GREGG

This indenture, made this 13th day of February, 1961, between Gregg County, acting by and through Earl Sharp, County Judge, lessor, and the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc., lessee, Witnesseth that, in consideration of the covenants herein contained on the part of the lessee to be kept and performed, the lessor does hereby demise and lease unto the lessee a certain lot with the buildings thereon situated, being all that certain lot, tract or parcel of land out of the northwest corner of Block 87, according to the New City Map of the City of Longview, in Gregg County, Texas:

Beginning at the Northwest corner of said Block 87;

Thence South with the East line of Second Street; 100 feet to stake for corner;

Thence East 130 feet stake for corner;

Thence North 100 feet stake for corner on the South line of North Street;

Thence West 130 feet with the South line of North Street to the place of beginning,

same being the North 100 feet of Lots Nos. 9, 10 and the West 22 x 100 feet of Lot 8 in

said Block 87, and fronting 130 feet on North Street and extending back 100 feet on Second

Street as fully described in Deed from J. C. Turner, Jr., et ux to the Longview Federation

of Women's Clubs, Inc., on the 20th day of April, 1935, said deed being recorded in Vol. 184

Page 275, Deed Records of Gregg County, Texas.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said lot and other premises hereby demised unto the lessee from the 13th day of February, 1961, during the full term of twenty (20) years thence next ensuing.

Lessor hereby covenants and Agrees that it will pay the insurance premiums on any policies in force covering the building during the term of this lease.

Lessee hereby covenants and agrees that, beginning February 13th, 1961, it will pay all maintenance costs and operating expenses of said building, except as to insurance premiums provided for above, and that it will, during said term provided for above, and that it will, during said term keep all and singular the said premises in such repairs as the same are in at the commencement of said term, or may be put in by the said lessor during the continuance thereof, reasonable use and wearing thereof, and damage by accidental fire, or inevitable accident only excepted.

It is expressly agreed and understood that said building is not to be used for the exclusive use and benefit of lessee, but said premises shall at all times be available for public purposes. However, it is expressly agreed that Lessee shall have the right to make a reasonable charge for the use of the auditorium or other portions of the building; said charge to cover only operating costs incident to the use thereof.

It is agreed and understood that in the event of termination of this lease, by agreement or otherwise, lessor agrees to reimburse lessee for the cost of said lot in the sum of Thirty-Five Hundred Dollars (\$3,500.00). In the event the County purchases said furniture, fixtures and equipment in said building owned by lessee, the county shall not pay a sum in excess of the cost price less depreciation. It is expressly agreed and understood that the sum of \$1.00 and other good and valuable considerations shall be considered as rent for the term of this lease.

It is further stipulated that lessee shall not have the right to assign this lease, except with the consent of lessor, evidenced by proper minute of the Commissioners' Court.

WITNESS OUR HANDS at Longview, Texas, this the 13th day of February, 1961.

GREGG COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT  
By Earl Sharp  
County Judge

ATTEST: LEWIS H. RICHARDSON  
COUNTY CLERK AND EX OFFICIO CLERK OF THE  
COMMISSIONERS' COURT, GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS  
By B. McClelland, Deputy Seal

LESSOR

THE LONGVIEW FEDERATION OF  
WOMEN'S CLUBS, A CORPORATION  
By Mrs. Garland Rushing  
President

ATTEST: Mrs. Ed Massad  
Secretary

THE STATE OF TEXAS    |  
                          |  
COUNTY OF GREGG     |

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for Gregg County, Texas, on this day personally appeared Earl Sharp, County Judge of Gregg County, Texas, known to me to be the person and officer whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that the same was the act of the said County of Gregg and that he executed the same as the act of such County for the purposes and consideration therein expressed and in the capacity therein stated.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this the 13th day of February, 1961.

Julie Croteau  
Notary Public, Gregg County, Texas

( L S )

THE STATE OF TEXAS    |  
                          |  
COUNTY OF GREGG     |

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for Gregg County, Texas, on this day personally appeared Mrs. Garland Rushing, President of the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, a corporation, known to me to be the person and officer whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that the same was the act of the said Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, a Corporation, and that she executed the same as the act of such corporation for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, and in the capacity therein stated.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this the 13 day of February, 1961.

Julie Croteau  
Notary Public, Gregg County, Texas

April 2, 1981

THE STATE OF TEXAS       X  
COUNTY OF GREGG        X

This indenture, made this 1st day of April, 1981, between Gregg County, acting by and through Henry Atkinson, County Judge, lessor, and the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, Inc., lessee, Witnesseth that, in consideration of the covenants herein contained on the part of the lessee to be kept and performed, the lessor does hereby demise and lease unto the lessee a certain lot with the buildings thereon situated, being all that certain lot, tract or parcel of land out of the northwest corner of Block 87, according to the New City Map of the City of Longview, in Gregg County, Texas:

Beginning at the Northwest corner of said Block 87;  
Thence South with the East line of Second Street;  
100 feet to stake for corner;  
Thence East 130 feet stake for corner;  
Thence North 100 feet stake for corner on the South  
line of North Street;  
Thence West 130 feet with the South line of North  
Street to the place of beginning,  
same being the North 100 feet of Lots Nos. 9, 10 and the West 22 X 100  
feet of Lot 8 in said Block 87, and fronting 130 feet on North Street  
and extending back 100 feet on Second Street as fully described in  
Deed from J. C. Turner, Jr., et ux to the Longview Federation of  
Women's Clubs, Inc., on the 20th day of April, 1935, said deed being  
recorded in Vol. 184, Page 275, Deed Records of Gregg County, Texas.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said lot and other premises hereby  
demised unto the lessee from the 1st day of April, 1981, during the  
full term of twenty (20) years thence next ensuing.

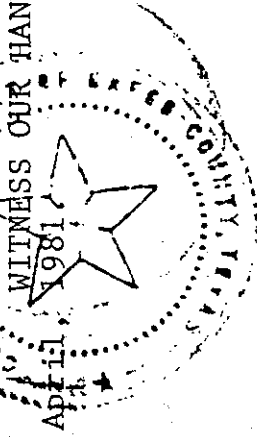
Lessor hereby covenants and Agrees that it will pay the insurance  
premiums on any policies in force covering the building during the  
term of this lease.

Lessee hereby covenants and agrees that, beginning April 1,  
1981, it will pay all maintenance costs and operating expenses of  
said building, except as to insurance premiums provided for above,  
and that it will, during said term provided for above, and that it will,  
during said term keep all and singular the said premises in such re-  
pairs as the same are in at the commencement of said term, or may be  
put in by the said lessor during the continuance thereof, reasonable  
use and wearing thereof, and damage by accidental fire, or inevitable  
accident only excepted.

It is expressly agreed and understood that said building is  
not to be used for the exclusive use and benefit of lessee, but said  
premises shall at all times be available for public purposes. How-  
ever, it is expressly agreed that Lessee shall have the right to  
make a reasonable charge for the use of the auditorium or other  
portions of the building; said charge to cover only operating costs  
incident to the use thereof.

It is agreed and understood that in the event of termination  
of this lease, by agreement or otherwise, lessor agrees to reimburse  
lessee for the cost of said lot in the sum of Thirty-Five Hundred  
Dollars (\$3,500.00). In the event the County purchases said furniture,  
fixtures and equipment in said building owned by lessee, the County  
shall not pay a sum in excess of the cost price less depreciation.  
It is expressly agreed and understood that the sum of \$1.00 and  
other good and valuable considerations shall be considered as rent  
for the term of this lease.

It is further stipulated that lessee shall not have the right to assign this lease, except with the consent of lessor, evidenced by proper minutes of the Commissioners' Court.



WITNESS OUR HANDS at Longview, Texas, this the 1st day of

GREGG COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' COURT

By [Signature]  
County Judge

ATTEST: [Signature]  
COUNTY CLERK AND EX OFFICIO CLERK OF THE  
COMMISSIONERS' COURT, GREGG COUNTY, TEXAS

LESSOR

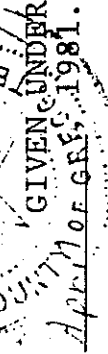
THE LONGVIEW FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S  
CLUBS, A CORPORATION

By [Signature]  
President

ATTEST: [Signature]  
Secretary

THE STATE OF TEXAS    I  
COUNTY OF GREGG     I

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for Gregg County, Texas, on this day personally appeared Henry Atkinson, County Judge of Gregg County, Texas, known to me to be the person and officer whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that the same was the act of the said County of Gregg and that he executed the same as the act of such County for the purposes and consideration therein expressed and in the capacity therein stated.

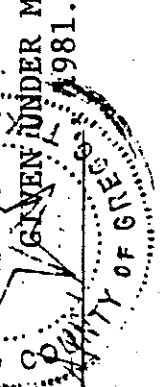


GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this the 2 day of

[Signature]  
Notary Public, Gregg County, Texas

THE STATE OF TEXAS    I  
COUNTY OF GREGG     I

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for Gregg County, Texas, on this day personally appeared Mrs. Charles Gray, President of the Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, a corporation, known to me to be the person and officer whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that the same was the act of the said Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, a Corporation, and that she executed the same as the act of such corporation for the purposes and consideration therein expressed, and in the capacity therein stated.



GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this the 2 day of

[Signature]  
Notary Public, Gregg County, Texas

## LONGVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER

### DREAM TO REALITY

The Longview Community Center came into being as a result of a far-sighted and dedicated group of women with a dream. The Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, comprised of civic and educational clubs, was organized in January of 1934 and incorporated March 8, 1935. Miss Virginia Kelly was the first president of this organization. The stated goal of the group was "To provide greater strength and purpose for increased community service."<sup>1</sup>

The first step toward making their dream become a reality was the purchase of a lot in 1935. In April of that same year, the lot at the corner of Second Street and North Street (now Whaley Street) became the site of the Community Center building. Members could visualize their club building but until that day of realization arrived a small make-shift structure donated to the federation by the Methodist Church was moved to the lot and became their temporary meeting place.<sup>2</sup>

Club members, individually and in joint effort, found unique and innovative ways to raise money to pay for the lot. Countless hours were spent in planning and executing vanishing teas, benefit bridge parties, food

<sup>1</sup> Longview Federation of Women's Clubs Handbook, Gregg County Historical Museum.

<sup>2</sup> Longview Federation of Women's Clubs Handbook, Gregg County Historical Museum.

and rummage sales, a spring carnival, a cotton week fete with women auctioning bales of cotton, home treks and a benefit performance by the Little Theater were among the many activities the various clubs sponsored on a continuing basis to fund their dream of "the building".<sup>3</sup>

Federation members were successful in convincing the Gregg County Commissioners Court to construct a permanent community center building at the Whaley Street location. The court agreed to appropriate \$25,000 toward construction with Federated Clubs pledging approximately \$10,000. The projected cost of the building was \$35,000 with the lot value being assessed at \$3,500. The contract conveying the fee simple title to the lot from Federation of Women's Clubs to Gregg County setting out financial responsibilities of both parties was signed September 29, 1939. On December 21, 1939, Federated Clubs deposited \$2,233.80 with the Gregg County Treasurer. On December 23, 1939 the lot at Whaley Street and Second Street was conveyed to Gregg County by Federated Clubs.<sup>4</sup>

Ground was broken on the Whaley Street site on December 28, 1939 with Gregg County Judge Merritt H. Gibson turning the first spade of ground. He was joined by Mrs. Charles B. Drake, president of Federated Clubs and Mrs. J. C. Francis, chairman of the building committee. Attending, also, were Mr. P. E. Zimmerman and Mr. W. E. Morgan, architects of the project. Mr. John Nelson, superintendent of construction and contractor for McKin-

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. Curtis (Daisy) Morris, The Center, a video narrative, Gregg County Historical Museum.

<sup>4</sup> Gregg County Deed Records, Vol. 184, p. 275.

ely Brothers Lumber Company, projected a "ready for occupancy building by the latter part of April 1940." Work on the foundation of the building began on December 29, 1939.<sup>5</sup>

A Dedication Ceremony for the Longview Community Center building was held May 4, 1940. A twenty year lease was presented to the president of Longview Federation of Women's Clubs, Mrs. Charles B. Drake, by Gregg County Judge Merritt H. Gibson. The lease contract was signed June 11, 1940 by precinct commissioners, the county judge and representatives of the Federation, Mrs. J. W. Falvey, president and Mrs. G. G. McKeller, secretary.<sup>6</sup> This lease has been consistently renewed.

For the last fifty-two years, the Longview Community Center, a unique and versatile building, has served tens of thousands of people in the East Texas area as well as in the Longview community. The building houses an auditorium seating 265, a large theatre foyer, a control room, a box office, a large back stage area and two dressing rooms. The building remains the same as the original except for the center courtyard which was converted to a kitchen in 1972-73. The original kitchen is used as a butler's pantry and storage area. Gregg County Commissioner Bill Satterwhite was instrumental in making this change: the large appliances for the new kitchen were installed by the county. The City of Longview's Arts and Cultural Commission partially funded the recent painting of the

<sup>5</sup> Longview News, from Longview Federation of Women's Club's Press Book, op. cit.

<sup>6</sup> Gregg County Commissioners Court Records.

auditorium as well as the installation of an updated lighting system and sound system. The Federation donated matching funds for the lighting system and had the entire backstage area painted in January of 1993.

The large dining room and adjacent smaller dining room will seat approximately 200 for dinner. This area was completely updated in 1990 with a dropped ceiling, new lighting fixtures, new carpet, refinished floors and fresh paint. The drawing room will seat 75 for a piano recital or meeting and approximately 60 for a wedding. This room was repaired, refurbished and completely redecorated in the summer of 1991 at a cost of \$23,000. The foyer is used for various functions: it will seat approximately 40 persons. There are two restrooms off the foyer and two restrooms off the large dining room. The foyer area including the box office and the manager's office was painted in 1990. Just recently the box office was updated by the Longview Community Theatre. The upstairs area contains the control room which overlooks the auditorium, and a large room which serves as a workroom for the clubs. Renovations, updating and pleasing cosmetics are apparent in every area of the building.

Outside, the cream brick Art Deco style, popular in the 1930s, has been restored; wood areas painted and windows weathersealed. Landscaping by a landscape architect has enhanced the exterior of the building. All improvements, inside and out, were completed within the last three years (1990-1993) by the Federation of Women's Clubs.

Some of the activities at the center include: children's dance recitals, piano recitals, and competitions, fashion shows, play productions, holiday

parties, birthday parties, cotillions, receptions, etc. A great number of couples have been married at the center and an even greater number have wedding receptions, parties and bridal showers. Also, the center has hosted announcement teas, baby showers, 25th and 50th wedding anniversary celebrations and morning and evening Sunday church services. Also, seminars, workshops and luncheons and dinners for a variety of business groups and non-profit organizations, Dale Carnegie courses, investment groups, barbershop quartets performances, bridge clubs, dinner clubs, chamber music, civic and service clubs, Longview Community Theatre and, most recently, the Longview Repertory Opera Company have all made use of the center's facilities.

The following Federated Clubs meet on a regular basis at the present time:

Aaron Burleson Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution  
 American Business Women's Association, Golden Light Chapter  
 American Business Women's Association, Longview Tall Pines Chapter  
 Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.  
 East Texas Knife and Fork Club  
 Gregg County Bar Auxiliary  
 Hydrangea Garden Club  
 Iris Garden Club  
 Longview Fine Arts Club  
 Longview Garden Club  
 Longview Music Club  
 Longview Study Club  
 Longview Symphony Chamber Music  
 Longview Woman's Forum

Northeast Texas Association of Legal Assistants

Pearl Chappell Study Club

Pilot Club of Longview

Piney Woods Quilters Association of East Texas

Prelude

Shakespeare Club

Twentieth Century Club

The Zonta Club of Longview

The Longview Community Center building is owned by Gregg County with Longview Federated Clubs being responsible for management of the facility. At the present time the center has a part-time manager who handles the scheduling of renting space for various functions and oversees the smooth operation of the facility. Assisting the manager is a STEP employee, paid by a special senior citizen program. The president-elect of Federated Clubs is building chairman and is responsible to the Federated Clubs' Board of Directors for maintenance and updating of the property.<sup>7</sup>

The building on the corner of Second Street and Whaley Street is an outstanding credit to the City of Longview and Gregg County. Truly, commemoration of this site is important, not only because of the history and service of this building, but also because of the impact on the community by a group of women with a vision and a dream and the Gregg County officials who had the foresight to underwrite the dream that became a reality.

<sup>7</sup> Virginia Barnett, Update on the Center, unpublished narrative.

## Footnotes

- 1 Longview Federation of Women's Clubs Handbook, Gregg County Historical Museum.
- 2 Longview Federation of Women's Clubs Handbook, Gregg County Historical Museum.
- 3 Mrs. Curtis (Daisy) Morris, The Center, a video narrative, Gregg County Historical Museum.
- 4 Gregg County Deed Records, Vol. 184, p. 275.
- 5 Longview News, from Longview Federation of Women's Clubs Press Book, op. cit.
- 6 Gregg County Commissioners Court Records.
- 7 Virginia Barnett, Update on the Center, unpublished narrative.

## Bibliography

- Barnett, Virginia, Update on the Center, unpublished narrative.
- Dedication Program, Longview Community Center Building, May 14, 1940, on display, Longview Community Center.
- Gregg County Commissioners Court Records.
- Gregg County Deed Records.
- Longview Federation of Women's Clubs Handbook, Gregg County Historical Museum.
- Longview Federation of Women's Clubs Press Book, Gregg County Historical Museum.
- Morris, Mrs. Curtis (Daisy), The Center, a video narrative, Gregg County Historical Museum.

Narrative by Virginia Barnett  
 Typing by Norman Black, D.D.S.





APPLICATION FORM  
OFFICIAL TEXAS HISTORICAL MARKER

This marker is for (title or subject): LONGVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER

County: GREGG

Marker location (street address and city, or specific directions from nearest town on state highway map):

500 East Whaley Street

Longview, Texas 75601

Distance and direction of marker topic from marker site (if applicable):

Attached to front of building



**APPROVAL OF COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

The application and narrative history must be approved by the county historical commission before forwarding to the Texas Historical Commission.

Chairperson's Signature: Noeman V. Walker, D.D.

Date: 5-26-93

Address: 417 Mobberly Ave., Longview, Texas 75602

Phone: May 25, 1993 (903) 757-2261

*The CHC chair automatically will receive all copies of correspondence regarding this marker project.*

**PERMISSION OF OWNER FOR MARKER PLACEMENT**

Permission for placement of a marker must be obtained by the property owner. Please provide the name of a contact person if the owner is an institution, organization, or public entity. This section need not be completed if the marker is to be placed on right-of-way maintained by the Texas Department of Transportation.

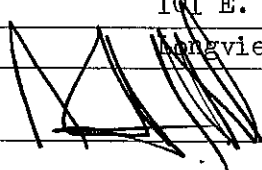
Name: Gregg County, Texas

Contact person (if applicable): Gregg County Judge Kenneth J. Walker

Mailing address: 101 E. Whaley St., Suite 300

Longview, Texas 75601

Phone: (903) 236-8420

Owner's Signature: 

Do you wish to receive copies of all correspondence concerning this marker application?  Yes  No

**To whom should the request for payment be addressed?**

Name: Longview Federated Clubs, Inc.

(Provide contact person if payee is an institution, organization, or public entity.)

Mailing address: 500 E. Whaley St.

Longview, Texas 75601

Phone: (903) 753-2052

Does this person wish to receive copies of all other correspondence concerning this application?  Yes  No

Is there anyone else to whom all correspondence concerning this marker application should be addressed?

(One additional name and address only, please.)

Name: Vicki Collins

Mailing address: 20 Victorian Oaks, Longview, Texas 75603

Phone: (903) 237-5982

### SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS

In order to facilitate delivery of the marker, neither post office box numbers nor rural route numbers can be accepted. If the marker is to be placed on the highway right-of-way, it will be shipped directly to the district highway engineer.

Name: Dr. Norman Black

Street address: 417 Mobberly Ave., Longview, Texas 75602

Phone: (903) 757-2261

TYPE AND SIZE OF MARKER DESIRED (please check one only)

#### Subject Markers

This type of marker is solely educational in nature and conveys no legal restrictions to the property. Subject markers are appropriate for topics such as cemeteries, church congregations, businesses, persons, events, and institutions. These markers should not be attached to buildings. If the marker is to be attached to a surface other than the foundry-provided post, please provide the requested information in the space below.

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 16" x 12" grave marker (comes with mounting bar)     | \$225 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" marker with post                           | \$750 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" marker without post (see below)            | \$700 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" marker with post                           | \$450 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" marker without post (see below) | \$400 |

If not on post, to what (block of granite, gatepost, etc.) will the marker be attached? brick  
Type of material? (wood, stone, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Recorded Texas Historic Landmark Markers

Markers conveying the Recorded Texas Historic Landmark (RTHL) designation are reserved solely for historic structures deemed worthy of preservation for their architectural integrity and historical associations. The RTHL designation does carry a measure of legal protection for the structure (see Marker Policies 13 through 18) and for that reason we must have a legal description (lot and block numbers) for the property to be designated. The most commonly used marker for conveying this designation is the medallion and plate (also referred to as a building marker); however, the 18" x 28" or 27" x 42" size marker may be ordered for those who wish a greater amount of historical information to appear in the marker text. Careful attention should be paid so as not to damage historic building material if the marker is to be mounted directly onto the structure. The THC staff can provide alternate ideas for mounting upon request.

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medallion and 16" x 12" plate with post                | \$350 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medallion and 16" x 12" plate without post (see below) | \$300 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" marker with post                             | \$750 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 27" x 42" marker without post (see below)              | \$700 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" marker with post                             | \$450 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18" x 28" marker without post (see below)              | \$400 |

If not on post, to what (building, gate, etc.) will the marker be attached? \_\_\_\_\_

Type of material? (wood, stone, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY (lot and block number; metes and bounds):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Before forwarding your material to the Texas Historical Commission, please check to make sure you've included the following items. Incomplete applications cannot be considered and may be returned to the applicant.*

- ✓ completed application form signed by the county historical commission
- ✓ narrative history with footnotes and bibliography
- ✓ photograph of the proposed marker location
- ✓ map indicating marker location and other sites related to the marker topic
- ✓ historic photo of property and current photographs of all elevations (RTHL markers only)
- ✓ legal description of property (RTHL markers only)
- ✓ floor plans (RTHL markers only)

Mail completed applications to:  
Local History Programs, Texas Historical Commission  
P.O. Box 12276, Austin, Texas 78711-2276  
512/463-6100

Additional items, including paperweights, directional signs, and replacement parts for 1936 markers, are available. Please contact the Local History Programs office for a separate order form.

# Group seeks Community Center shots

By Martha Griffin

Assistant Features Editor

Wanted: photos of the Longview Community Center before 1943.

The Longview Federated Clubs is looking for photographs of the Longview Community Center taken before 1943 as part of its effort to have the center designated as a historical landmark, according to Vicky Collins, president of the Federated Clubs.

The building was dedicated on May 14, 1940, and the Federated Clubs hopes the center can qualify for the Recorded Texas Historic Landmark designation, she said. This designation is given to buildings that are at least 50 years of age.

Dr. Norman W. Black, chair of the Gregg County Historical Commission, is helping the Federated Clubs, but so far they have been unable to track down any suitable photographs, Collins said.

In a letter from the Texas Historical Commission, administrator Cynthia J. Beeman told the group the Commission needed clearer historic photographs, taken before 1943, if possible.

If anyone has a photo, the Federated Clubs would like to borrow it to enclose a copy with the marker application that goes to the Texas Historical Commission. All photographs will be returned, Collins said.

For more information, call the Longview Community Center, 753-2052. Callers should leave their name and phone number.

The Longview Federated Clubs is responsible for operating and maintaining the community center, a county building.

Longview News-Journal

Wednesday, August 18, 1993

Section D

**LONGVIEW TODAY**

■ Wanted: clear photographs of Longview Community Center taken before 1943. Needed for Longview Federated Clubs building historical marker application. Information: 753-2052, leave name and number.

Longview News-Journal

Monday, August 16, 1991

2-A

**LONGVIEW TODAY**

● Wanted: clear photographs of Longview Community Center taken before 1943. Needed for Longview Federated Clubs building historical marker application. Information: 753-2052, leave name and number.



**Gregg County Historical Commission**

Norman W. Black, D.D.S.  
Chairman

417 Mobberly Avenue  
Longview, Texas 75602

Phone  
903-757-2261

October 3, 1993

Cynthia J. Beeman, Administrator  
Official Texas Historical Markers  
Texas Historical Commission  
P. O. Box 12276  
Austin, Texas 78711

Re: Longview Community Center Historical Marker Application

Dear Cynthia:

I do not know how I could have possibly overlooked these photographs. I was looking for another subject when I found them. They are in the History of Longview, published by the Longview Jaycees in 1957. There is no index nor page numbers in the large green book but it does have a lot of information not found elsewhere.

The ground-breaking photo was apparently made December 28, 1939, according to the text on p. 2 of the narrative in the H.M. application I sent in. In the background is the magnificently constructed Longview High School designed by the noted architect, Mark Lemmon. This building was demolished a few years ago in spite of much, loud protestation.

I hope these photos provide a little better documentation of the subject.

Sincerely,

*Norman*

Enc.

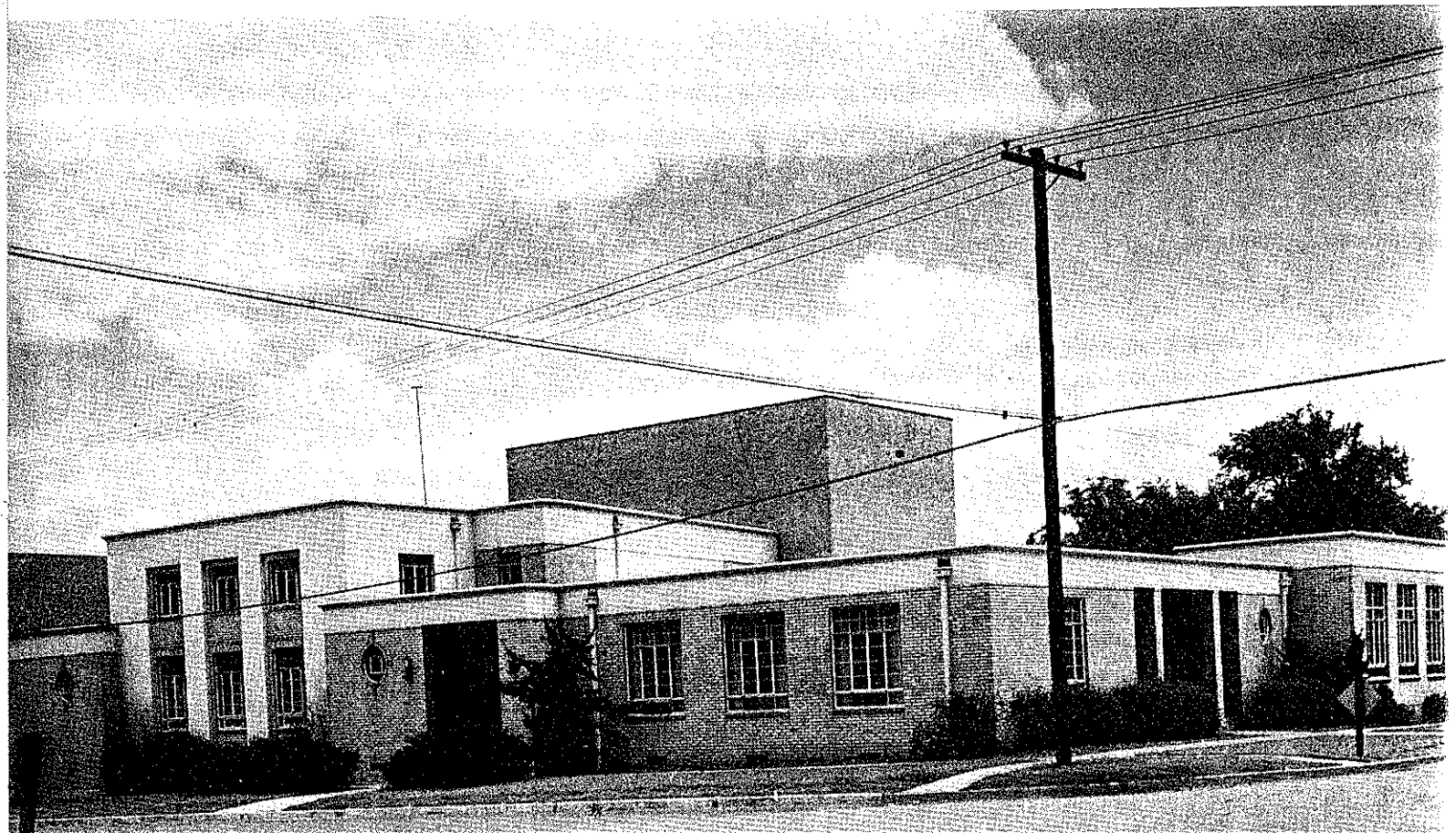


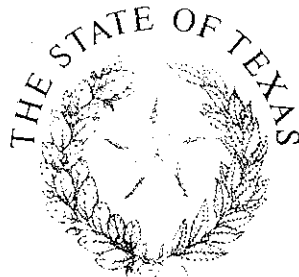
Groundbreaking ceremony for Longview Community Center and building that followed.





Groundbreaking ceremony for Longview Community Center and building that followed.





CURTIS TUNNELL  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

# TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 12276  
January 11, 1994

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

(512)463-6100

Longview Federated Clubs, Inc.  
500 E. Whaley Street  
Longview, TX 75603

RE: LONGVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER  
18" x 28" marker w/o post

500 E. Whaley, Longview  
Job # 26193, Gregg County

Dear Club members:

This letter is to notify you that the State Marker Review Board has reviewed and approved the above-referenced structure for the Recorded Texas Historic Landmark (RTHL) designation. This special status, awarded to properties deemed worthy of preservation for their architectural integrity and historical associations, conveys a measure of legal protection to the building. Notification of any modifications to the exterior of this structure should be made to the Texas Historical Commission at least 60 days prior to the commencement of work. Please refer to the enclosed brochure for further information on the RTHL designation.

Payment for the marker, in the amount of \$500.00, is now due. Because of an increase in foundry costs for the current fiscal year, the price of this marker has also increased since your original application was received. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, and will understand if you need some extra time to raise the additional funds.

Please complete and return the enclosed Payment Form at your earliest convenience. Once payment for the marker is received, the application will be placed in line to have the marker inscription written. The inscription will not be written until after funds have been received. When the text is prepared, a copy will be sent to you and any parties listed below for review and approval.

The Texas Historical Commission congratulates you on the preservation of this fine structure and appreciates your effort to record Texas history in this manner.

Sincerely,

Cynthia J. Beeman, Administrator  
Official Texas Historical Markers  
Local History Programs

pc: Norman Black, Gregg CHC  
Vicki Collins

*The State Agency for Historic Preservation*

# Clubs to honor volunteers

## Awards luncheon planned March 28; historical marker to be unveiled at community center

By Shawn Jones-Wright

Staff Writer

Longview Federated Clubs will honor two Longviewites as Man and Woman of the Year during its honors awards luncheon at noon March 28 at the Longview Community Center, at 500 E. Whaley St.

This year's honorees are Brenda Yoder and Peppy Blount. The receiving line will begin at 11 a.m. Tickets are \$10 each and are available by calling the community center, 753-2052.

Dr. Norman Black, chairman of the Gregg County Historical Commission, will serve as master of ceremonies. Charles Davis, Precinct 1 commissioner, will give the invocation.

In addition to the luncheon, Longview Federated Clubs

will also unveil a historical marker, which will be placed outside the main entrance of the Longview Community Center building.

Vicky Collins, president of Longview Federated Clubs, said the historical marker will be placed because of the building's age and usefulness to the community.

"The building is over 60 years old. We wanted to preserve it. Many clubs have used the building over the years, and many still use it today," Collins said.

"Longview Federated Clubs is made up of about 20 different clubs, and all of them meet there. Also, the building is open to the community, so we have people renting it out all of the time," she said.

Shortly after the

then-Longview Federation of Women's Clubs formed, members began raising funds for a community center and searching for the perfect piece of land on which to build. They found it at the corner of Second and Whaley streets.

The land was purchased in 1935, but until more funds could be raised for the building, club members met in a small, make-shift structure, donated to the federation by the Methodist church.

In 1940, Federation members were successful in acquiring funds from the Gregg County Commissioners Court for a building.

According to Collins, the community center building is owned by Gregg County with the Federation being responsible for its management.

They hope more people in Longview will realize the importance of volunteerism and make giving a more routine part of their lives.

Blount said volunteerism should be ranked right up there with breathing.

"Giving to the community is important. It should be one of the most important things in every one of our lives. All of us need to strive to give back a little bit more than we receive," he said.

Yoder agreed, and added that

the volunteer spirit should be passed down with each generation.

"I see it as a duty to give back to the community. When people do bad things and commit crimes, we make them do community service hours. Why can't we do it just because it needs to be done and not as a punishment?" Yoder asked.

"It should be mandated that we give back. And we need to teach our children to want to give back to their community," she said.

How long do the Woman and Man of the Year plan to stay active in Longview?

As long as possible, they say.

"I guess it's so important to me because I don't look at it as giving to the community. I look at it as giving it to God. And as long as He continues to give me another day, I'm going to use it as if it were my very last," Yoder said.

Blount echoed Yoder's feelings.

"I'm going to do it until I finally wear out," he said.

Texas Historical Commission Staff (RMO), 5/26/94, Revised 8/23/94

18" x 28" Official Texas Historical Marker without post for brick  
Gregg County (Job #26193)

Location: 500 E. Whaley St., Longview

**LONGVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER\***

SOON AFTER ORGANIZING IN 1934

LONGVIEW'S FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S  
CLUBS BEGAN RAISING FUNDS FOR A  
COMMUNITY CENTER. THE FEDERATION  
PRODUCED MATCHING FUNDS FOR AN  
APPROPRIATION OF THE GREGG COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS COURT TO BUILD THIS  
STRUCTURE IN 1940. IT HOUSES AN  
AUDITORIUM, FOYER, KITCHEN, TWO  
DINING ROOMS, AND A DRAWING ROOM.  
IT IS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF  
THE MODERNE STYLE AND FEATURES  
VERTICALLY BANDED WINDOWS WITH  
CIRCULAR ACCENTS AND A SIMPLIFIED  
CORNICE AND ENTABLATURE. THE SITE  
OF NUMEROUS ACTIVITIES, THE CENTER  
CONTINUES TO PROVIDE SPACE FOR  
IMPORTANT COMMUNITY FUNCTIONS.\*\*

RECORDED TEXAS HISTORIC LANDMARK - 1994\*\*\*

\*1/2 inch lettering  
\*\*3/8 inch lettering  
\*\*\*1/4 inch lettering

**PLEASE CHECK ONE AND SIGN:**

- I approve this text as written.  
 Please consider the revisions as  
noted on this copy.

*Norman Koch, P.O.S.*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

returned 9-12-94

# LETTERS

## Focus on women's history comes to Longview

**E**ditor  
Setting aside March as National Women's History Month allows us to join thousands across the country to take action now, to turn into reality the dream of bringing women's lives and women's history into the mainstream.

In addition to deepening our understanding of the complex

nature of historic events, women's history introduces students, male and female alike, to a wide range of female role models from the past. Knowledge of these women and their contributions can be a major boost to the self esteem of girls and women and can help boys and men develop a more realistic appreciation of the roles and abilities of women today.

Women's history counters the traditional invisibility of women and provides an opportunity to ask some interesting new questions about the makers of history.

"Women's History: Promises to Keep" is the 1995 theme. Nineteenth and early 20th century women forged paths for women in many fields, creating unlimited promises for the generations to come. Women today are keeping those promises alive by taking leadership roles in all areas of society.

Thanks to help from Friends of the Library, the City of Longview's Commission for Women has been successful in securing a traveling exhibit that pays tribute to Texas women. "Texas Women — A Celebration of History" is scheduled for display this month at the Longview Public Library.

There is a good display of posters and photos and they will be giving out bookmarks featuring biographies of notable women. They have compiled a bibliography of all issues and titles pertaining to women which will be at the front desk for easy reference.

In addition to this display, Gregg County Historical Museum hosts an excellent library of video interviews (oral histories) which provide an insightful look to women who contributed much to the area.

We encourage all the citizens of Longview, men and women alike, to take advantage of these resources during the month.

Jimmie M. Davis, chairperson  
Longview Commission for Women

## East Texas CALENDAR

East Texas Calendar appears in the Longview News-Journal each day. Items should be typed or printed on 8 1/2-by-11-inch paper and include a day-time phone number. Releases may mailed to East Texas Calendar, P.O. Box 1792, Longview 75606, faxed to 757-3742 or brought to the newspaper office, 320 E. Methvin. Submissions must reach the newspaper at least two working days before the publication date.



**Joan N.  
Rathbun**

### Today

- **Hallsville Baseball Association Sandlot Party**, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, new baseball complex, Interstate 20. New teams posted. Information: **Theresa Hughes**, 660-0020.

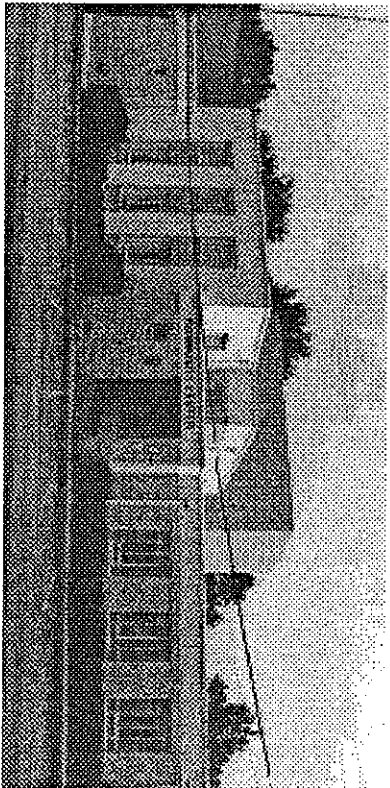
### Monday

- **Longview Teen Court**, 5:30 p.m. Monday, Municipal Court building, 302 W. Cotton. Information: 237-1186.

### Upcoming

- **Financial Planning and Tax-Saving Strategies Seminar**, 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Stebbins Conference Room, Longview Hall, LeTourneau University. Free. Speakers: **Mark Boon** and **Sherilyn Johnson**. Information: 753-0231, ext. 369.
- **Historical Marker Dedication** by Longview Federated Clubs, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Longview Community Center auditorium, 500 E. Whaley. Open to public. Information: 753-2052.

**DEDICATION  
OF AN  
OFFICIAL TEXAS  
HISTORICAL MARKER**



**LONGVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER  
500 East Whaley Street  
Longview, Texas**

**TUESDAY,  
MARCH 28, 1995**

*Master of Ceremonies*

Dr. Norman W. Black, Chairman  
Gregg County Historical Commission

•

*Invocation*

Commissioner Charles Davis, Precinct 1  
Gregg County

•

*Welcome*

Vicky Collins, President  
Longview Federated Clubs, Inc.

•

*Introduction of Guests*

Brenda Boggs, President Elect  
Longview Federated Clubs, Inc.

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*Proclamation*

David McWhorter, Mayor Pro Tem  
Longview, Texas