

## **The Fielder Flash**

Arlington Historical Society

March 2024 Newsletter



### **Our Venues**

**Fielder Museum** | 1616 W. Abram Street

**Knapp Heritage Park** | 201 W. Front Street

**Arlington Heritage Memorial Grounds** | 600 W. Arkansas Lane

### **Contact Us**

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**Website:** [www.arlingtontxhistory.org](http://www.arlingtontxhistory.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/FielderHouseMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/FielderHouseMuseum)

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### **A note from the editor**



March is an anniversary for me—it was three years ago that I first visited Fielder Museum. I remember being surprised at how many exhibits and artifacts were there; it also seemed much larger on the inside than it looked on the outside. I was starting to get interested in local history and visiting Fielder was my introduction to Arlington’s history. Everything was fascinating, and three years later, it still is. Soon after, I joined the Arlington Historical Society, and the rest, as they say, is history. If you haven’t visited Fielder or Knapp lately, come out and see us!

**Jason S. Sullivan, 03-31-24**

Newsletter Editor

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### **Upcoming Events**

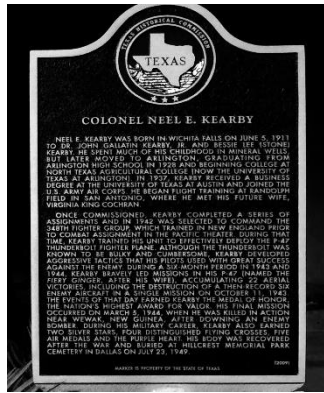
- **April 18**—Texas Authors Book Club, Fielder Museum, 6:30 PM
- **April 21**—AHS Board Meeting, Knapp Heritage Park, 2:00 PM
- **May 16**—Texas Authors Book Club, Fielder Museum, 6:30 PM
- **June 20**—Texas Authors Book Club, Fielder Museum, 6:30 PM

## Arlington Historical Society news

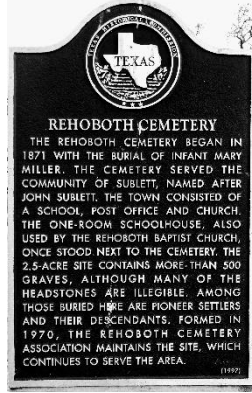
### Marker Monday series continues on Facebook

Back in January, we started a new series on the Fielder Museum [Facebook](#) page titled “Marker Monday,” where we highlight a different Arlington historical marker or plaque each week.

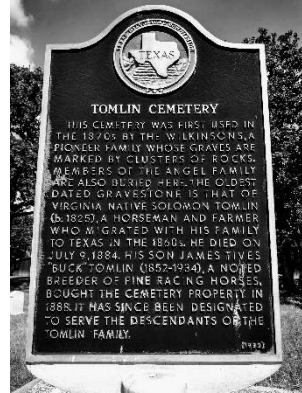
In March, we highlighted the Texas Historical Markers for Colonel Neel E. Kearby, Rehoboth Cemetery, and Tomlin Cemetery. We also highlighted something a little different—the QR Code and sign for Miss Persis Forster, which was especially popular on Facebook. What’s next? Follow us on Facebook to find out!



**Colonel Neel E. Kearby** – located between City Hall and the downtown library, as part of Arlington's World War II Memorial; the site also includes a life-size statue of Kearby.



**Rehoboth Cemetery** – located on Harris Road in south Arlington; notable burials include members and descendants of the Sublett, Harris, and Bardin families, among other area pioneers.



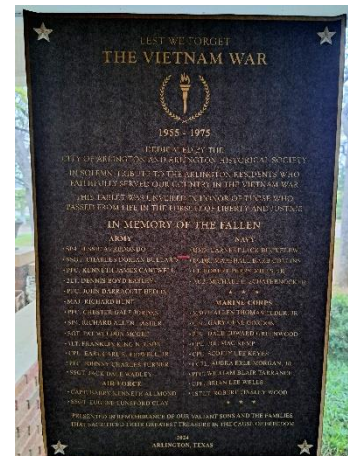
**Tomlin Cemetery** – located on Tomlin Lane in a residential area of north Arlington; notable burials include the Tomlin family and other pioneer families and their descendants.



**Miss Persis Forster** – located downtown at the intersection of Oak Street and Main Street; the QR Code goes to this [website](#) for a short bio about Miss Persis Forster.

### Lest We Forget—new plaque coming soon to recognize Arlington’s fallen from the Vietnam War

The Arlington Historical Society, in conjunction with the City of Arlington, is working on an “In Memory of the Fallen” plaque to recognize Arlington’s Vietnam War soldiers. The plaque will list the rank and names of the 28 young men from Arlington who gave their life in the pursuit of liberty and justice. The plaque will be dedicated later this year; there is a rendering of it (shown here) displayed at Fielder Museum.

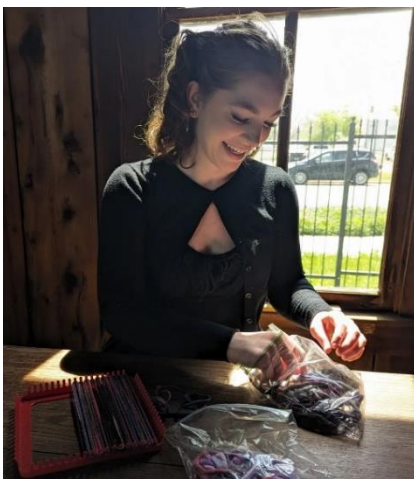


### **Pioneer Days held at Knapp Heritage Park**

On Saturday, March 23rd, we hosted Pioneer Days at Knapp Heritage Park. There was a great turnout, and the weather was perfect. UTA Museum Studies dressed in period costumes and led tours of the cabins and schoolhouse. There were also crafts, including butter-making, loop and hook loom weaving, and corn husk doll-making.

A special thank you to UTA Associate Professor of Practice Cheryl Mitchell, and her students—Manny Winchester, Zach Chapman, and Libby Morse—for participating. Also, a thank you to Nancy Tice, Geraldine Mills, Wanda Marshall, and Sandra Greenwood from the Arlington Historical Society for making the event a success. We plan to have a similar event in the fall.

In addition to being the home of three of Arlington’s oldest structures, Knapp Heritage Park offers a rustic escape in downtown. The beautifully landscaped grounds also feature bluebonnets and other wildflowers, which are in full bloom this time of year! If you haven’t been out to Knapp lately, visit us on Saturdays and Sundays from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM for a trip to Arlington’s past.



*Photos from Pioneer Days—courtesy of Cheryl Mitchell*



## **Women's History Month celebrated at Fielder Museum**

March is Women's History Month, and Fielder Museum celebrated with a fashion exhibit. Additionally, our exhibits about Carrie Rogers and the Berachah Home—which was recently expanded and updated—offer different views of Women's History in Arlington.

### **Women's fashion exhibit**



*Women's fashion exhibited throughout Fielder Museum. This clothing is not only stylish and timeless, but it helps tell Women's History.*

### **Berachah Home exhibit**

The newly updated and expanded Berachah Home exhibit now features more photos, artifacts, and information, using words and photos originally published by Reverend J.T. Upchurch, who founded the home. The home, which was more of a campus with several buildings, opened in 1903 as a place where young women could live, work, and learn new skills. Residents were typically homeless, unwed, and/or pregnant young women, but also included those thought to be “fallen.” The buildings no longer exist, yet the cemetery is located on the UTA Campus.



### **Carrie Rogers exhibit**

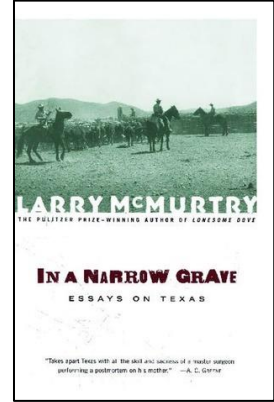


One of Arlington's most influential women was Carrie Rogers—born as Nancy Caroline “Carrie” Coleman in Virginia in 1861. She came to Arlington in the 1870s and married A.J. Rogers in 1883. The couple would have five children. As a civic leader and entrepreneur, Carrie was active in the community, while seeking change and betterment. In 1914, she became Arlington's city marshal and was believed to be the first woman in Texas to hold that position. Carrie died in 1947, at age 86, and is buried at Arlington Cemetery.

### Texas Author Book Club meets April 18

In April, we're reviewing "In a Narrow Grave: Essays on Texas" by Larry McMurtry. Originally published in 1968, it's McMurtry's homage to the past and present of the Lone Star State. Check the Arlington Public Library, [Amazon](#), or bookstores for copies; it's also available as an E-book.

The book club meets at Fielder Museum at 6:30 PM. Contact Fielder Museum or email [texasauthorbookclub@gmail.com](mailto:texasauthorbookclub@gmail.com) for more info.



### Local History news

#### Colonel Neel E. Kearby recognized on National Medal of Honor Day



The City of Arlington held a ceremony on March 25—National Medal of Honor Day—to pay tribute to Colonel Neel E. Kearby. Kearby grew up in Arlington and is the city's only recipient of the Medal of Honor. The ceremony was held at Arlington's World War II Memorial near City Hall and the downtown library, where Colonel Kearby is honored with a Texas Historical Marker and life-sized bronze statue.

It was also announced that the theater at the National Medal of Honor Museum will be named in honor of Colonel Neel Kearby. The museum is expected to open in March 2025 in Arlington's Entertainment District.

#### An evening with Vickie Bryant of Top O' Hill Terrace

Our neighbors at the Kennedale Historical Society have an upcoming event featuring a presentation by Vickie Bryant from Top O' Hill Terrace. Vickie always has great stories, and Top O' Hill Terrace is one of Arlington's most intriguing historic sites!

The event is free and open to the public. While you're there, consider joining the Kennedale Historical Society and supporting their organization.



#### Event details:

- **What:** An evening with Vickie Bryant of Top O' Hill Terrace
- **Date:** Thursday, April 18th
- **Time:** 6:30 PM
- **Place:** Kennedale Senior Center - 420 Corry A. Edwards Drive, Kennedale