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Featured Dayton Texas Stars

FREE ADMISSION!

OLD SCHOOL MUSEUM & LOG CABIN

111 West Houston Street - Dayton

Open Saturdays 10 am – 2 pm

The Old School Museum & Log Cabin are located at 111 West Houston St. across from post office

Dayton Historical Society members serve as hosts for visitors.

For more history/information, visit:

- Website: daytontxhistory.com
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DaytonTxHistory>



Dayton Historical Society Meetings

6 P.M. on last Monday of month

at Parker Hall (behind Old School Museum)

Guest speaker program is preceded by a short business meeting and followed by refreshments.

Public is welcome!

To Rent Parker Hall

call Aline 713-927-1629 or Josh 832-233-3894

Website & Newsletter Contact/Author

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Dayton History News

Frank Norcross & Lucy Tilton Legacy

Intersecting with Texas State Highway 321 due west of Cherry Creek Road and Dr. ER Richter Elementary school is a street named Norcross Lane (aka County Road 661).

It is named after Frank Norcross who purchased 50 acres on the north and south side of Norcross Lane in 1911.

Norcross Legacy

Born 22 September 1879 in Austin County, Texas, Amos Franklin (Frank) Norcross was the 6th of 10 children born to his parents George Washington Norcross (1843-1928) and Mary Emeline Shaver (1847-1889).

His mother Mary died when Frank was only 10 years old and is buried at Elizabeth Chapel Cemetery in Burleson County, Texas.

His father George Norcross then married Miriam Garner (1860-1936) with whom Frank gained 6 more siblings.

Frank's father George and his step-mother are buried in Roscoe Cemetery in Nolan County, Texas.



Amos Franklin Norcross (1879-1951)
Lucy Virginia Tilton (1882-1970)

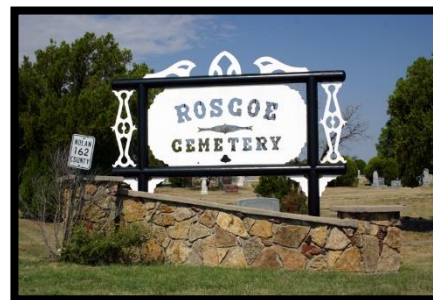
As of the 1910 U.S. Federal Census, Frank had married Lucy Virginia Tilton of Dayton but lived on a farm in Beaumont. By 1911, they were Dayton residents.

In September 1918, Frank was required to register for the World War I draft at which point he indicated that he was a pipeline maker.

He also registered for the World War II draft in April 1942 at which point he indicated that he was 62 years old.

Frank (1879-1951) and Lucy (1882-1970) Norcross were the parents of 3 sons – Milton Frank (1904-1976), Walter Roscoe (1908-1985) and Carl Alton (1914-1964).

The entire family – Frank & Lucy as well as their sons and spouses are all buried at Linney Cemetery in Dayton.



Brashear Legacy

In contrast to her husband Frank who moved to Liberty County (Dayton) as an adult, Lucy has a lengthy legacy of Liberty County and Chambers County lineage via her parents.

She was the eldest of 8 children born to John Milton Tilton (1853-1900) and Effie Sophia Brashear (1862-1953).

Lucy Tilton-Norcross's mother – Effie Brashear – was born in West Liberty which later became known as Dayton.

Effie's parents were Stephen Belt Brashear (1832-1925) and Selina Corbello (1839-1871).

Stephen & Selina Brashear

Stephen Brashear and his wife Selina Corbello were both born in Louisiana – he in Rapides Parish and she in Calcasieu Parish.

They moved to West Liberty by the early 1850's where he became a farmer and rancher.

This is affirmed by the 1860 Liberty County federal census which shows newlyweds Stephen Brashear and Selina Corbello living in West Liberty.

It was December 3, 1871 when his wife Selina died at the age of 32 while giving birth to a stillborn son. She was buried at French Cemetery in Kenefick.

As a result of Selina's death, her husband Stephen was now a widower with three young daughters to care for – Effie age 9, Lucy age 5 and Eva age 2. Stephen chose to not remarry even though he lived another 53 years.

It was about 7 years (1878) after Selina's death when Stephen Brashear moved with his 3 daughters from West Liberty to the Old River-Winfree community.

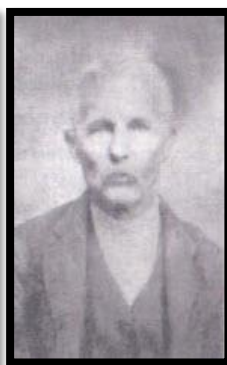
He purchased 191 acres in Old River for \$300.00 from Henry Griffith. Two years later on March 16, 1882, Stephen sold 100 of those acres in Old River to James M. Robinson for \$150.00.

It was August 27, 1886 when Stephen divided his 91-acre farm between his three daughters, and gave them their portions in a deed.

His eldest daughter Effie received 31 acres while the two younger daughters Lucy and Eva each received 30 acres.



Selina Corbello
(1839-1871)
French Cemetery
Kenefick



Stephen Brashear
(1832-1925)
Reeves Cemetery
Old River-Winfree

Stephen Brashear was a descendant of Robert Brashear who came to Virginia from France around 1635 while Selina was a descendant of the "Canary Islanders" – a group of 16 families from Spain's Canary Island who settled in San Antonio in 1831.

Tilton Legacy

John Tilton Sr. & Effie Brashear

Stephen Brashear's eldest daughter, Effie Sophia Brashear married John M. Tilton Sr. (1853-1900) on 9 February 1882 at the age of 19 in Old River-Winfree.

They were the parents of 7 sons – Roscoe, Charles, Addison, Ivan, Benjamin, Jessie, Dennis; and 1 daughter – Lucy Virginia Tilton-Norcross who were all born between 1882 and 1899.

Their youngest son, John Milton Tilton Jr., was born in May 1899 – 9 months before the death of his father on 6 February 1900 at the age of 46. John Tilton Sr. was buried at Tilton Cemetery in Old River-Winfree.

A Texas state historical marker at the site provides the history of the Tilton Cemetery – a family legacy established about 1860 that is still maintained by Tilton family descendants.

Charles Tilton & Annie Barber

John Milton Tilton Sr. was born 31 October 1853 in Liberty County – the 7th of 9 children to Charles Nathan Tilton (1799-1860) and Annie Barber (1817-1883) who married in 1831 when Annie was age 15.

According to family tradition, Charles was a cabin boy and boatswain for the pirate Jean Laffite.

He fought in the Texas revolution and was granted a head right of 1,496 acres near the site of Tilton Cemetery where he was buried in 1860.



Effie Sophia Brashear Tilton
(1862-1953)

An obituary published in 1953 entitled "Native of Dayton Dies at Age of 91" states ---

Funeral services were set for 3 p.m. for Mrs. Effie Tilton, 92-year-old lifelong resident of the Dayton community. She died Sunday in a Dayton hospital after a week's illness of pneumonia. Burial was set for Linney cemetery near Dayton. She is survived by seven sons and a daughter. Among her sons is B. L. Tilton, well known Baytown Refinery worker.

Mrs. Tilton was born in 1861 and lived her entire life in and near Dayton. Her husband, the late J. M. Tilton, a farmer and stockman died 50 years ago. The pioneer woman was also survived by 27 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren.

**In Memory of
Dayton Historical
Society member &
Brashear-Tilton
descendant
Nell Whittington
(1935-2021)**

