

Dayton Rotarians spotlight Judge Neel

DAYTON - The Dayton Rotary Club will be celebrating its 100th anniversary this spring. As part of the centennial celebration, the club has been recognizing its charter members and gaining insights into the founders of the organization. There were 20 charter members in 1926, many of whom were actively involved not only in the Rotary Club but also in city affairs, the school district, and county organizations.

Judge Walter S. Neel was a notable member of the community. He was born in Shelby County, Texas, and became a Presbyterian minister at a young age in 1899. In 1912, he purchased the local newspaper, The Daytonite, where he served as editor and owner until selling it in 1933. The newspaper served as a central source of local information, reporting on politics, church activities, community events, organizations, and women's clubs.

For example, on June 23, 1927, The Daytonite reported that five Liberty Rotarians visited to attend the Dayton Rotary Club meeting but lost their way on the return trip. The publication noted, "In the future, the Dayton Rotary Club will probably be asked to appoint a guide to ensure those who need assis-

tance in returning home are directed properly." In another article, Neel covered a friendly baseball game between the Hull-Daisetta Rotary Club and the Dayton Rotary Club, in which the Dayton team emerged victorious. The article also mentioned that "after the game, the Liberty Rotary Club (which sponsored both Rotary clubs' establishment) served barbecue to all those in attendance." The Daytonite also featured numerous advertisements, which played an important role in supporting the community.

Judge Neel also served as the first mayor of Dayton from 1926 to 1930. He was elected to the Dayton City Council in 1933 and served until 1944. During his time on the city council, he also held the position of municipal judge, often performing marriage ceremonies at his home. Additionally, Judge Neel was a member of the Liberty County Commissioners Court.

The Dayton club will be celebrating the 100th anniversary on April 10 at the Dayton Community Center starting at 6 p.m. There is limited seating, so everyone is asked to RSVP as soon as possible to Jessica Johnson @ jessjohn1218@gmail.com.



Larry Wilburn was really turning out those 'cakes for the Dayton Noon Lions pancake supper last Thursday.

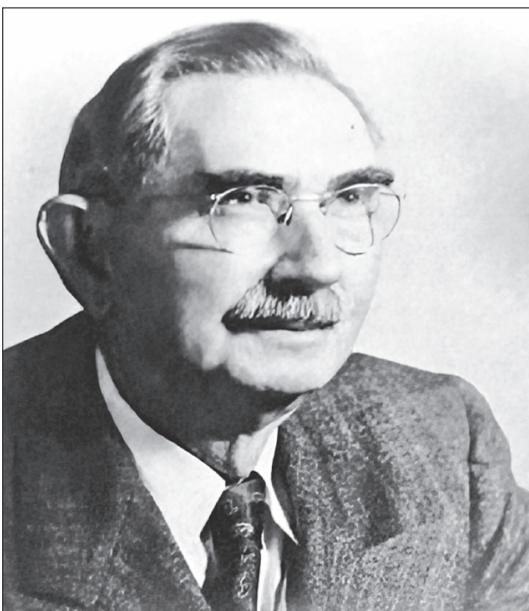
Next SHC Book Club meeting, April 28

LIBERTY - Interested in a casual conversation about books with a friendly group? The SHC Quarterly Book Club will meet April 28 at the Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center (SHC) to discuss the intriguing novel *The Stolen Queen* by bestselling author Fiona Davis. Join us for this fun, free and informal gathering of readers from 6-7 p.m. No membership or registration is required.

Featuring fictional works with a connection to the world of museums, archives and libraries, the SHC book club is open to all and meets in the Center's main building at 650 FM 1011 in Liberty. Home to extensive archival holdings documenting Southeast Texas, a library collection and a museum, the Center offers an ideal

setting for discussions about novels tied to these fields. Each meeting will be led by SHC staff.

Interested participants may obtain a copy of the novels through their local library or favorite bookstore to prepare for the conversation. For more information, contact SHC staff at (936) 336-8821 or via email at SamHoustonCenter@tsl.texas.gov.



JUDGE WALTER S. NEEL

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<p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">Ultrasound</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General Ultrasound - Vascular - Obstetrics/Gynecology - ABIs <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">(Available Monday - Friday by appointment)</p> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">Echocardiograms</p> <p style="font-size: x-small; margin: 0;">(Available Every other Monday by appointment)</p>	<p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">CT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Routine CT - CT Calcium Scoring - CT Angiography - CCTA Heart Scans - CT Bone Density <div style="text-align: center; font-size: small; margin: 5px 0;"> <p>LibertyDayton REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER</p> <p>1353 N. Travis, Liberty 936-336-7316, ext. 274</p> </div>

DAYTON TEXAS

Connect with Dayton City Councilmembers

Mayor Martin Mudd - mmudd@daytontx.org

Harry Barnes Jr., Position 1 - hbarnes@daytontx.org

Sarah Vickery, Position 2 - svickery@daytontx.org

John Headrick, Position 3 - jheadrick@daytontx.org

Tonya Smikal, Mayor Pro Tem, Position 4 - tsmikal@daytontx.org

Alvin Burruss, Position 5 - aburruss@daytontx.org

City Council meeting are usually held the third Monday of each month.

Visit cityofdaytontx.com for the agenda packet, which will be posted Friday before the regular meeting.

Councilmember Vickery will make an effort to share dates & packet links on her council Facebook page.

Information provided by councilmember Sarah Vickery.

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