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- Arnold State Farm Insurance
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- Colbert Elementary
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- Dayton Chiropractic Center
- Dayton City Hall
- Dayton Community Center
- Dayton Dialysis
- Dayton High School
- Dayton ISD Admin. Bldg.
- Dayton Police Dept/Muni Court
- Dayton Seafood & Steak
- Dayton Sports Bar
- Dayton Trading Post
- First Baptist Church – Dayton
- First Liberty National Bank
- Fordland Estates
- Frank's Collision
- Green Mechanical
- Ideal Protein Weight Loss Center
- Inman Apartments
- J Js Chevron Station
- John Griffin Surveyors
- Jose's Mexican Restaurant
- Liberty/Dayton Chamber of Commerce
- Mainframe 24 Hour Wrecker
- Marshall Family Practice
- McDonalds Restaurant
- McDowell Construction Co.
- Mike's BBQ Restaurant
- Neele Propane
- New Day Massage
- Nottingham Alt. Education Center
- Riverside Cafe
- Post Oak Bank
- Redizoo
- Riverside Café (Liberty)
- Richter Elementary
- THS Medical Clinic
- Williamson's Propane



**Interested? Contact Caroline Wadzeck**  
936-402-3797 or [cwadzeck@hotmail.com](mailto:cwadzeck@hotmail.com)

### Rent Parker Hall For Your Event

To reserve Parker Hall, contact:  
**713-927-1629 or 832-233-3894**

### Newsletter or Website Contact

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**Old School Museum:** The Old School Museum is located next to Parker Hall at 111 West Houston St. in Dayton and is open Saturdays from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

**Dayton Historical Society:** The Society meets in Parker Hall at 6 P.M. the last Monday of each month for a historical program presented by guest speakers. The program is preceded by a Society business meeting and followed by refreshments.

# Dayton History News

## Making The News

Dayton citizens have had ample opportunities to read local newspapers for more than 130 years.

Of course, the Liberty Vindicator holds the record for longevity having been established in 1887 by Thomas Jefferson Chambers.

Those who seek to research “recent news” can use the Liberty Vindicator website ([thevindicator.com](http://thevindicator.com)).

The Liberty Gazette is a local weekly newspaper published since 1960. It is a home-owned and family operated business.

Although no longer published, the Daytonite News was Dayton's counterpart to the Liberty Vindicator for 3 decades during the early 1900s.

It first came off the press in 1909 under the leadership of Marion Price Daniel Sr. and Parmenas Haynes LeSeuer. Neither man was new to the publishing business.

LeSeuer's occupation was listed as printer in both the 1880 and 1900 census while living in Crockett, Texas. So, most likely he was affiliated with the Crockett Patron newspaper.

Daniel had published the Willis Progress from 1907 to 1909. He also published the Teague Daily Herald and then bought and published the San Jacinto Times.

Together, they published the first Daytonite issue from April 22, 1909



until January 1, 1912 when it was sold to Walter Neel for \$1000.

Neel published it until 1933 when he sold it to C.C. Travis and M.B. Brown who also bought a newspaper called The Progressive Outlook published in Hull-Daisetta.

Travis and Brown combined the 2 papers and created The Liberty County News first published on May 25, 1933.

The Daytonite was resurrected in 1936 and published by A. V. Babin for a year.

On Jan. 28, 1971, Wiley Smith of The Liberty Gazette combined The Daytonite and The Gazette into one paper featuring The Daytonite on the front page but dropped the Daytonite page after a few issues.

**Daytonite News Article – Feb. 24, 1916 Issue**  
**PROGRESSIVE DAYTON**

That we have attempted to write and publish a few facts and figures about the rapid progress of Dayton is sufficient for the reader to know that every line of this article is written with the sole purpose in view of showing to the outside world the many advantages the business, or resident, man has here over towns of like size in the United States.

**DAYTON AS IT WAS**

We have been reliably informed that eight years ago there was not a painted house in the town. There was but one passenger train, each way, that made this stop. That the business interests of the town were composed of one or two mercantile establishments, a drug store, post office and such other business institutions as usually go to make up such a village.

There were then, possibly, twenty-five residences and two hotels in the town. At that time there was no rice growing interests here. No fig or orange trees bearing fruit, and truck growing had never been tried. The reader who peruses this edition carefully will soon perceive the vast changes which have been made, and can readily discern.

**DAYTON AS IT IS TODAY**

As to location Dayton has good reason to feel a just degree of pride. The town is situated on the highest ground between Houston and New Orleans, on the main lines of the T. & N. O. and T. V. & N. railways, thirty-five miles from Houston on the west, and 310 miles from New Orleans on the east, two of Texas' and the South's most important shipping points. We have nine mail and ten express trains running through our city daily, to say nothing of the large number of freights.

In fact, it has been acknowledged by the railroad officials that there is no like-sized town in the entire state that has even as complete a train service as has Dayton, a condition of which our citizens have just cause to be proud, as it has been chiefly through the enterprising efforts of our ambitious business men, supplemented by the town's natural resources as a railroad center, that this pleasing state of affairs has been brought about.

As a financial center Dayton stands out conspicuous. Her popular financial institution, The Dayton State Bank, so increasing in prominence and patronage, that, from a small, rented building, which it occupied when established in March 1907, only three years ago, it has grown and expanded until it now owns and is located in one of the finest modernly constructed banking buildings in this part of the state.

**Daytonite Printing Press & Newspapers on Display at Old School Museum**

Dayton's Old School Museum recently received the original printing press used by Daniel and LeSueur to publish the Daytonite newspaper from 1909 to 1911.

It was donated to the Old School Museum by Ann Rogers, Susan Daniel and Dani Brister representing the Bill Daniel family and was received by the museum curator Caroline Wadzeck.

The press had been on loan to the Sam Houston Regional Library & Research Center since the 1977 grand opening of the center.

Visitors to the Old School Museum can see the original printing press and excerpts from issues of the original newspaper.

**Old School Museum hours**  
**10 am to 2 pm Saturdays**

Daytonite printing press donated by:  
 Ann Rogers  
 Susan Daniel  
 Dani Brister  
 (left to right)

Daytonite newspaper excerpts are mounted on display at far right in background



Daytonite newspaper advertisement - excerpt from Feb. 24, 1916 issue

“Those were the days” prices!