

Memo

To: County Judge, Commissioners

From: Historical Commission

RE: FY2012 Historical Commission Grant Program

**Collin County Genealogical Society: Digitize McKinney's Historical Newspapers
\$4,530**

Until the Collin County Historical Commission grant awarded in 2011 allowed digitization of some of the old McKinney newspapers from the 1800's had been digitized and made freely available to the public. The Collin County Genealogical Society is again seeking funding to continue scanning and digitizing decades of Collin County's historical heritage (newspapers already preserved on microfilm) and making them freely accessible and searchable by online researchers. The Society will partner with the University of North Texas "Texas Digital Newspaper Program" and be able to digitize and make available online to a worldwide audience the contents of two microfilm rolls of the McKinney, Texas newspaper, *The Democrat*, from the years 1904-1908 and four microfilm rolls of *The Daily Courier Gazette* (years 1901-1913). There are a total of 4800 newspaper pages whose content can then be found via search engines like Google or through direct searches to the Portal to Texas History Web site