

FORT BEND COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

ORAL HISTORY COMMITTEE



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Abstract: **Frank John Ferro**

Frank Ferro, known as John to family and friends, shares stories of attending Missouri City school from 1-12 grades. As the second generation of immigrants from Italy, he loved school.

The school gym, built in the 1930s, is one of the oldest and largest school gyms on the Gulf Coast. It was used not only by students but by the community for plays, weddings, and parties as well as an emergency shelter.

John and his fellow classmates successfully worked long and hard to save the gym from being torn down after the consolidation of the school districts.

9 Pages

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Interview Summary

People (in order mentioned in interview)

Mrs. Robinson – teacher
 Bill Shaver – coach
 Jim Ellis – coach
 Mr Wade – coach
 Leonard Scarcella – classmate
 Frankie Cash – classmate
 Clarence Duran – classmate
 E. A. Jones, principal
 L. P. Rogers – superintendent
 Mrs. King – teacher
 Mr. Bond – teacher
 Mr. Gibbons – teacher
 Mrs. Eamond – teacher
 Mr. Abercrombie – teacher
 Mr. Wright – teacher
 Allen Robinson – community leader
 Lee Petros – FBISD assistant superintendent

Grady Prestage – County Commissioner
 Pct 2

Places / Businesses

Eldridge Memorial Hospital
 Sugar Land, Texas
 Missouri City School District
 Stafford, Texas
 Future Farmers of America (FFA)
 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
 Missouri City Mustang High School
 Gymnasium
 Missouri City, Texas
 Fort Bend ISD
 Missouri City ISD
 Sugar Land ISD
 John Foster Dulles School
 Sugarland Industries
 Visco Chemical

Events

Known as John, he was born in 1938 in Sugar Land and raised in Fort Bend County. He attended grades 1-12 at Missouri City school district and graduated in 1958.

He is the 2nd generation of immigrants from Italy and one of 13 children. John took on the role of community advocate to save the school gym after Missouri City and Sugar Land consolidated school districts into Fort Bend ISD.

The gym was built in the 1930s and is one of the oldest and largest on the Gulf Coast. As an historical building, he felt it was imperative to save it.

John and many classmates still get together once a week and the 25 classmates have reunions every 5 years at Christmas.