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PRESS RELEASE

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Historic Brown House Open for Tours, Rentals

Wylie, TX, April 6, 2016 – Tour a piece of Wylie history! The Brown House, located at 301 N. Ballard Ave., is now open for free, self-guided tours Tuesday through Saturday from 9 am to 1 pm. No reservation is needed. The historic home is also available for rental for receptions and other small gatherings; visit www.wylietexas.gov/facilities or call 469-626-2741 for prices and more information.

William Thomas and Mattie Brown built the home in 1905. Mr. Brown was one of Wylie's first alderman and owned a mercantile shop on Ballard Avenue. The house remained in the Brown family until 1931, when it was sold. The F.O. Birmingham Memorial Land Trust bought the home in 1989 and restored it, including replacing the original stained glass windows that had been removed and were boxed up under the house. The City of Wylie purchased the house in 2015 when changes in trust laws made it prohibitive for the Birmingham Trust to continue to maintain the home.

The Victorian-style Brown House features a wrap-around porch, seven rooms downstairs, including a kitchen, a larger room and bathroom upstairs, a turret, and fish scale shingles.

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About Wylie – Incorporated in 1887, the City of Wylie is located just 24 miles from downtown Dallas in Collin, Dallas and Rockwall counties. Possessing an outstanding school district, a low crime rate, an ISO #1 rating and an expanding business climate, Wylie (population 48,000) is one of the fastest-growing communities in the state of Texas with a 220-percent increase since 2000.