

COUPLAND HERALD



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Coupland Civic Organization

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- Judy Downing, Fundraising
- Jonathan Jones, Building and Grounds
- Barbara Piper, Depot/Caboose Coordinator
- Susan Garry, *Herald* Newsletter Editor, Publicity
- Evelyn Draehn

Additional Committee

- Jennifer Dollins, Community-Wide Communications

What's Going On in the City?

By Mayor Jack Piper and Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Piper

Coupland's city council is anxiously waiting to see whether the project presented to the Wilco Precinct 4 Bond Committee will be included in the proposed Wilco Bond 2023. As previously reported, Alderman John Roulston-Bates and the city's engineer, Tony Prete, did an outstanding job of presenting the layout of the project to the Committee, supported by all of the council members. (Photos on page 3)

The council has been working on a job description plus qualifications for the position of City Secretary. This will be a contract, part-time position and will be posted upon finalization of the aforementioned.

It is that time again, elections. For this period, there are three positions that will be open, Mayor and two Aldermen. Information will be posted at the Post Office, Citizens National Bank, and the ESD #10 Fire Station.

We couldn't write a report of happenings without talking about road maintenance. Road maintenance continues to be the largest issue the city undertakes. Potholes, dips,
(Continued on page 3)

Sadly, Coupland School Supt. Brinkman Resigns

By Susan Schmidt

On June 27, 2023, Superintendent Tammy Brinkman resigned from Coupland ISD. The district is in the process of beginning construction of the new Middle School. With the loss of Mrs. Brinkman, we lost technical and financial support for the administration of the bond. The longer this construction takes, the more inflation will eat up the bond funds.

The big question is why did Mrs. Brinkman resign? I had a brief personal conversation with her. She stated she did not know why she was receiving pressure to resign. School board members have been silent on this matter, with some board members not knowing themselves.

Mrs. Brinkman was the spokesperson for the school bond. With her expertise and calm demeanor, she was able to handle any tough questions with knowledge and grace, without ruffling any feathers. Mrs. Brinkman was respected by the majority of her teachers and staff as well as members of the community.

Ironically, it was after the successful bond election that pressure by some school board members began to force Mrs. Brinkman to resign. On May 15, 2023, a special school board meeting was held to a standing room only crowd. All the 20+ speakers who addressed the board spoke in favor of retaining Mrs. Brinkman as superintendent.

This situation occurred at a critical junction for the construction of the school and the administration of the bond to build said school. Because of this, I fear the quality of the new school will suffer. The current school board does not have the ability to properly administer this bond. Even with currently having an interim superintendent and with the search and hiring of a new superintendent, the continuity of constructing this school is lost.

This is not the time to delay any hiring practices or the administration of the bond. From having conversations with stakeholders across the district, the consensus is the two
(Continued on page 2)

President's Message

By Susan Schmidt, CCO President

Happy summer to all. It is another hot one. Unlike last year, everything is still green since we had beneficial rainfall in the spring.

This is the time of year when we start looking forward to the Civic Organization's annual events starting in August. Tuesday, August 1, we will host our annual National Night Out at the Depot. This is a wonderful time to reconnect with neighbors and meet new friends while enjoying a supper of hot dogs with all the fixings and home baked cookies courtesy of the CCO Board members. In September, we will have our regular meeting on the last Monday of the month. The program will be announced later but you can always count on food being served beforehand. October is a busy month for us. Choo Choo Fest will be on Sunday, October 15, at St. Peter's Fellowship Hall. The end of October brings our annual Trunk or Treat celebration.

Looking back over past *Heralds* is a favorite pastime for me. Last year, M-D Floors said goodbye to Hoxie Street, where it had been located for 22 years. At the same time, we welcomed Red River Restorations, a company specializing in restoring historical homes and buildings.

Five years ago, CCO hosted their first golf tournament at Taylor's Mustang Creek Golf Club. Jonathan Jones, CCO board member, organized the tournament. Ten years

ago, the first Coupland City Council met for the very first time. Elections were held in May, 2013. Coupland also had a visit from a lot of Model A's in June, 2013. The Lone Star Model A Ford Club stopped in Coupland as part of their 50th Annual Texas Tour. 115 beautiful Model A's were lined up in downtown Coupland. Twenty years ago, the *Herald* did a series of articles on Heritage Farms, a designation awarded to farms that have been owned by the same family and in continuous agricultural production for over one hundred years. Sadly, many of those farms have been sold and subdivided.

I am sure many of you have heard of the situation at Coupland ISD. If not, read the column in this issue of the *Herald* about the happenings at the school. This is the time to get involved, even if you have no children in the Coupland School. We all are stakeholders in Coupland ISD. We pay taxes to support the district. We need to be aware of events happening there. The best way to stay informed is to go to the school board meetings. Usually, the board meets the second Thursday of each month, 7 p.m., school library. However, there are special meetings that occur, particularly budget and tax meetings. It is important for our community to show up so your voices can be heard over any concerns you may have.

Stay cool and I hope to see many of you at National Night Out, Choo Choo Fest, and Trunk or Treat.

Susan Schmidt

(Continued from page 1)

board members who caused this situation should resign and let the community move forward.

A petition asking for their resignations will be presented to the board. If you are asking what you can do, it is very simple. Come to the school board meetings and let your voices be heard. You can see when their meetings take place by visiting the school's website at www.couplandisd.org and accessing the school board section and agendas. I am hoping more and more people will become involved in this important part of our community.

The opinions herein are those of the author and not necessarily those of the CCO or the *Herald*.

The crowd waited outside during the school board's closed session, but no information was forthcoming.

Photo by Susan Garry



At the standing-room-only school board meeting on May 15, all the speakers supported Superintendent Brinkman.

Photo by Susan Garry





Left, Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Piper and Alderman John Roulston-Bates discuss Coupland's presentation to the Wilco Bond Committee. Roulston-Bates and City Engineer Tony Prete make the presentation to the Committee.



(Continued from page 1)

speed humps all factor into the issues discussed at each council meeting. If one has an issue or wishes to report a "new issue," please join us at a council meeting. The regular council meeting is held on the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Coupland Fire Station.

Coupland will soon (very soon) have a SITE!!! The city office site will be located in part of the Red River Restoration facility at 116 Hoxie. Council has agreed on a three-year lease which will commence upon completion of the buildout. We all anxiously await its completion, and Barbara and I will be happy to have the city office relocated from our home to an office on Hoxie. Stay tuned for more information, i.e., hours, etc.

Coupland is a small city but we do have ordinances that have been passed and adopted. If one is uncertain about whether or not something is allowed, please visit Coupland's website, www.cityofcouplandtx.us.

You can't predict the future, so plan for it.

Jay Sutton

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St. Peter's Church Welcomes New Pastor, Rev. Scott Wasdin

St. Peter's Church is thrilled to welcome our new pastor, Reverend Scott Wasdin! He and his wife, Crystal, have an 8-year-old daughter and three sons, aged 11, 10, and 9, who will be attending Coupland School.

Scott was raised in a small town in Georgia and believes in deep community values. He previously served as Pastor at First Congregational Church in Whitman, Massachusetts, as well as Cooperative Baptist Fellowship churches in Virginia and Georgia.

Scott also has experience in school administration, fundraising, and working with youth, including serving as Headmaster of Southampton Academy in Virginia and coaching basketball.

Crystal runs an online children's boutique at AbbeyLondon-Boutique.com. The family is looking forward to being a part of the Coupland community.



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St. Peter's Church of Coupland

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 Scott Wasdin, Pastor

Senior Luncheon on September 19

By Charlotte Albert

All area Senior Citizens are invited to join us for our next Senior Citizens Luncheon on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, with lunch being served at 11:30 am, followed by Bingo and 42 Dominoes. If you wish to participate in Bingo, it is suggested but certainly not required to bring an item with a value of up to \$10. We hope to see you there!

Our Senior's luncheon held on Tuesday, July 18, was our Annual Picnic meal of delicious Chicken Salad Croissant sandwiches, potato chips, and our great root beer floats for dessert. The ladies group, L.I.F.T. (Ladies in Fellowship Together), enjoy planning these events and supplying food for our area Senior Citizens. As always, it was well attended.

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Sundays, Texas Farmers' Market at Mueller, 10-2

On-line Store:

- www.yeguacreekfarms.com

Hollywood Cameraman Speaks To CCO—By Jonathan Jones

Editor's note: Thanks to Coupland Civic Organization (CCO) Board Member Jonathan Jones for arranging the June 26 meeting with Hollywood cameraman Cal Roberts. Mr. Roberts worked on such films as Speed, Top Gun, Lethal Weapon, and Jurassic Park and worked with such actors as Clint Eastwood, Tom Cruise, and Michael Douglas and with Steven Spielberg. Following is an interview that Jonathan had with Mr. Roberts.

After the CCO meeting with Cal Roberts, I spoke with him for a few minutes. He really enjoyed the time he got to spend with some of the people of Coupland. He really enjoyed his conversations with Jack Piper and Buz Garry. He said the environment was very welcoming and warm, and he was happy that he was invited to speak and share a bit of his life's adventures with us.

He also said the goal of restoration of the caboose and Depot is something we all should be proud of and he was happy to help in any way he could. He did take the opportunity to tour the Depot and caboose before he spoke

at the CCO meeting. He was very impressed with the artifacts we have on display and the progress of the caboose restoration. We thank him for his donation of an antique railroad artifact.

Overall, Mr. Roberts was very happy with the turnout and the opportunity to speak to a lot of community members one on one. I invited him back for National Night Out and Choo Choo Fest. He said he would be happy to come out and enjoy the company and conversation again. He did apologize for going on for as long as he did but his passion for what he did for over 40 years was obvious. I told him that we enjoyed his telling part of his life story, and I'm sure we all would like to hear more when the opportunity comes around again. He asked me to thank the CCO for the invitation to speak, and he looks forward to the next time he gets to come to Coupland and be a part of our community get-together.

Serving the supper before the program are Barbara Piper, Susan Schmidt, and Becky Sutton.



Far left. Jonathan introduces Mr. Roberts. Left, Mr. Roberts speaks about his career as a cameraman on many famous films. Below, Jonathan shows Mr. Roberts around the Depot.




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Dustin Haines—Caboose, Fine Woodworking, and More—By Susan Garry

Possibly no one has had a larger recent imprint on construction in Coupland than the Haines family. We have been working with their family since 2012, over 10 years. The patriarch of the family is Bobby, daughter Rosie helps on projects, especially painting, and son Dustin, whose company is Haines Craft Construction, is the main craftsman now on Coupland projects, large and small. The Haineses live in the Bastrop area, but much of their work is focused in Coupland.

Dustin, with Rosie’s help, perhaps has his most public connection to Coupland from his work on restoring the historic caboose that is owned by the Coupland Civic

Organization. Over the past few years, Dustin has repaired the exterior siding and painted it, replaced the roof, rebuilt the windows, including the ones on top in the cupola, and replaced the floor with a tongue and groove pine floor. When enough funds are raised to continue, the Civic Organization plans to have Dustin finish the caboose interior.

Dustin has done repairs and additions to older homes, newer homes, and brand-new homes in the Coupland area. He takes on major construction jobs. He is knowledgeable about all aspects of construction—from house leveling to chimney repair. He knows and supervises other craftsmen like masons, roofers, concrete pourers, plumbers, and electricians.

On the other end of the scale, he also does smaller jobs like antique furniture repair and fine woodworking. He says, “I especially enjoy doing fine woodworking.”

As he was growing up, Dustin was taught by his father Bobby. In years past, father and son worked on projects together. Now, Dustin tackles the larger projects, and Bobby is slowing down, shifting toward more handyman-type projects, such as smaller repair jobs in homes and furniture repair. As if he weren’t busy enough, Bobby also keeps bees.

Dustin enjoys working with antique wood. “In a newer home,” he says, “I like to use wood that was milled over one hundred years ago from a building on the same land because of the beauty of the wood and the history and heritage that come with it.” He adds, “I love working here in Coupland where homes and land have been in the family for generations. People are connected to the community and to the land.”

His jobs are not just construction projects, he notes, “It is the transformation of a space. I enjoy the process of it.” His approach has paid off. He says, “I am very, very busy.” His jobs are primarily residential. He adds, “I will do commercial if it’s the right project, but I like the personal connection to residential.”

His wife Daphne explains, “Our whole family is involved in the process to transform your family’s home. I work behind the scenes to maintain the administrative side of



Dustin and his sister Rosie working on the caboose. Photos by Susan Garry



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the business and track down material, and Ember, our three-year-old, is growing into a capable assistant in the shop. She helps her daddy sweep up and even helps him keep things organized!" Ember will have a new sister in November.

Daphne continues, "Our customers in Coupland are not just customers, they are friends. And these homes house generations of history; it's an honor to maintain that history for generations to come. We aren't just working on a house, we are partnering with each customer to craft the home in which their children and grandchildren make memories."

Go to the website www.hainescraft.com to see examples of Dustin's work. Among the projects that Dustin has done on our house is the construction of a staircase and interior balcony in our upstairs hall. See the photos of Dustin, Daphne, and their daughter Ember sitting on the stairs. We needed good access to our outside balcony door. Dustin designed and created stairs, handrails, and newel posts that exactly duplicate our main staircase. Always creative, Dustin used extra parts to design and make the two tables that can be seen at the bottom of the staircase. As with many projects,



Dustin, Daphne, and Ember on the stairway that he created to match the main stairway in the Garry house.



www.hainescraft.com

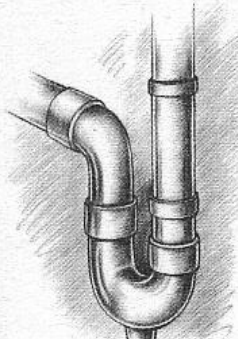
the staircase was a Haines family project, with Dad Bobby and Mom Charisse instrumental in acquiring the balusters.

And when Dustin is thinking about designing a project such as this, he does drawings of what he has in mind, so the customer can see what the project will look like. Dustin is a talented artist, both in woodworking and in drawing the projects.

Daphne comments, "I've been thinking about the stair we made for you. It's so fun to witness the process of a project like this. I remember harvesting the wood, some of it with square nails in it, revealing how long it had stood working for your family. I remember hearing the stories of who had worked in those barns that were structurally compromised, but now would be used in a new way. Dustin harvested the old wood, turned it into planed, beautiful wood, and then into the masterpiece of this stair!"

Dustin has a gift: he takes weathered wood, reveals the beauty that's just under the surface, and makes it functional again. He works closely with customers to create what they envision. Daphne says, "He is often able to take their ideas even further than they originally thought, making true works of art out of functional parts of their home--just like this staircase."

Daphne concludes, "The Coupland community is a very special one to us! We enjoy working in Coupland especially because this tight knit community is so welcoming, unique, and vibrant."

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Coupland School News -- By Kate Knappek, Assistant Principal

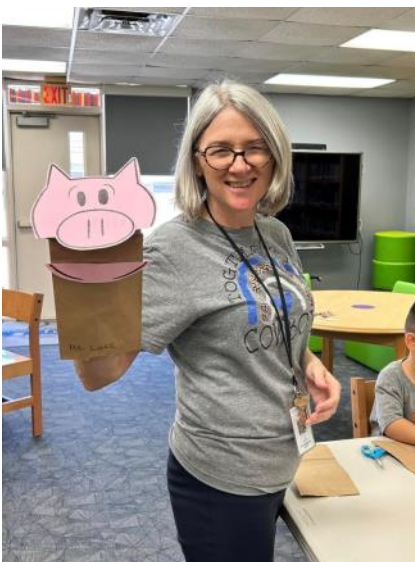
August 1 marks the first Annual Cowboy Corral day for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. See flyer to the right.



A BIG thank you to Karen and Mark Flanagan! They reached out to ask if they could make lunch for our summer school students- and it was a big hit! Sloppy Joe's, Fruit and A&W Root Beer Floats!!



Special thanks to Ms. Mazyrack, Ms. Smith, Ms. Lester, Ms. Moore, Ms. Price, Ms. Tai, and Mrs. Combs and Ms. Combs for planning such fun activities for summer school! The kids had a blast! Field trips included, the Taylor Public Library, the fire station, the post office and HEB!



Thank you to Ms. Lake for offering a summer reading program for all of our students Pk-8th! It was a fun opportunity to create projects and check out books for the summer!

All photos courtesy of Coupland School



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At Coupland School, Dr. Hogi with the Williamson County Retired Teachers Association was a guest reader in our Kindergarten classrooms. The Association also gave each student a book!

Emergency Services District #10

By Maranda Cummings

Administrative Support, Williamson Co. ESD#10

Board Meetings are being held in person at the Coupland Fire Station each second Tuesday of the month. The meetings are also available via telephone conferencing. This information is available each month on the meeting notice posted at the Coupland Fire Station, Coupland Post Office, Citizens National Bank in Coupland, Thrall Fire Station, and Thrall Post Office. The approved minutes, meeting notice/agenda, and audited financial report are also posted on the ESD's website at www.wcesd10.org.

The annexation of the Avery-Pickett (Taylor VFD) Fire District passed in May with 288 votes for and 116 votes against it in district. In the Taylor Defined Territory there were 78 votes for the annexation of the Taylor Defined Territory and 48 votes against. The adoption of a local sales and use tax in Williamson County ESD #10 at a rate not to exceed 2% in any location in the district also passed in May with 259 votes for and 151 votes against it in district.

The new 3,000-gallon tender was delivered in April 2023! You may have already seen it in town running calls, during training, or at the 4th of July parade in Taylor.

If any of our area residents are interested in joining Williamson County ESD #10, please contact John Roulston-Bates (District 1 Chief) at jroulston@wcesd10.org or Zach Hall (District 2 Chief) at zhall@wcesd10.org. Please check the Williamson County ESD #10 Facebook page as well as the Coupland and Thrall Volunteer Fire Departments' Facebook pages for updates and upcoming events.

As always, we extend our appreciation to our volunteer ESD Commissioners and the volunteer firefighters of Williamson County ESD #10. We would especially like to thank those volunteers that provide training to better the district. The ESD is proud to support their volunteer firefighters as they serve our area residents.

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Q&A with Becky Sutton By Wells Mason

Wells interviews life-long Coupland Resident Becky Sutton

Question: As a long-time resident of Coupland, Texas, many people know you, but with so many new people to the area, many may not. Where were you born? Where did you attend elementary school and high school?

Answer: I was born in Taylor at John’s Hospital which is no longer in existence. I attended Coupland School from first through eighth grade. There were 2 classes in each room and everyone’s favorite teacher was Mrs. Gretchen Pfluger. She taught first and second grade and she was also our Sunday School teacher. Taylor High School was quite an adjustment for all of us – from seven students in my eighth grade to over sixty in my freshmen class. I had an amazing time being a member of the Green Jackets and playing on the basketball and volleyball teams.



Question: I understand that you were one of the original owners of the Coupland Inn and Dance Hall. Please tell us about that period of time? What are some of your favorite memories?

Answer: Yes, I was one of the original owners of the Old Coupland Inn. But the Dancehall at that time was still Mr. Pete’s grocery store so that came later. The Inn opened April 23, 1971, and I was with it until 1990. First of all, I remember all the local kids that worked at the Inn. It felt like we were one big happy family. Another thing I will never forget is when we served 700 customers on a Saturday night. The Texas-Arkansas game was that afternoon, and that night we served the Texas and Arkansas cheerleaders plus many fans. What a fun and busy night that was.

Question: These days, you’re still very active in the Coupland community. Please tell us the different organizations that you’re involved with?

Answer: I’m on the Board of the Coupland Civic Organization and I serve as treasurer. I’m also an active member at St. Peter’s Church of Coupland. At the church, I serve on the Memorial Committee, and I’m a member of our Ladies Group called LIFT that provides home-cooked meals along with Bingo and dominoes for senior citizens at the church.

Question: If you had to pick just one or two things, what do you like most about Coupland?

Answer: Coupland is my hometown and I have many wonderful memories growing up here. In times past, I knew everyone who lived here, but those days are over. I still like the small-town feeling, and I would like to meet everyone living in Coupland.

Although she didn’t mention it, Becky was also the Homecoming Queen at Taylor High School and FFA Sweetheart back in the day. I hope everyone in Coupland gets an opportunity to meet her. She makes everyone feel welcome and she’s another reason that Coupland is so special.

Since 1999, Wells Mason is also a long-time resident of Coupland. He’s a designer and sculptor and the owner of Ironwood Industries along with his wife Jessica. Twenty years ago, he spearheaded the heady effort to build a community center designed by Texas Tech University architecture students in downtown Coupland, and he’s proud of the conversations that it sparked within the community. He also served on the Coupland Water Supply Corporation Board of Directors for many years including President. His studio is headquartered in Coupland with satellite operations in Taylor and Marfa.

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Oppose Destructive Concrete Batch Plants at New Sweden

By Emily Erickson

Over 100 residents of New Sweden and the surrounding rural communities attended a hearing on May 24 protesting Five Star Concrete’s permit application for two concrete batch plants near the heart of New Sweden. Afterward, the applicant withdrew the request which meant that TCEQ did not have to answer questions proposed by the many community members at the meeting. Five Star re-applied shortly thereafter, and the new hearing has been set for August 9 at the same Pflugerville Courtyard by Marriott location as the May meeting.

Efforts are underway to request a postponement of the August meeting to September 27 or another date in October. Residents are being asked to write letters once again concerning this issue. You may include comments you made and questions you asked during the first round in May. It is imperative that TCEQ see that we’re not giving up even though a second hearing is required.

Some important points to include in your letter:

1. The TCEQ application is for an air quality permit. In your letter, please express a concern about the high winds in the New Sweden area that would easily spread the volatile organic compounds and other substances known to be harmful to humans and livestock. Those of us in the countryside know that the winds are unobstructed where the trees are sparse, and there is no doubt that the dust from the two concrete plants will not be controlled or contained.
2. Respectfully request a change of date to September 27 or in October. Be specific about your farming activities or summer vacation plans on August 9 if those activities will make participation difficult for you on that date.

3. Respectfully request that TCEQ change the venue to a location in New Sweden rather than in Pflugerville. (We are working with New Sweden Church and Manda School Community Center to determine which location will be available.)

Please submit your letter electronically at: www14.tceq.texas.gov/epic/eComment/ for Permit #173049 or mail your letter to:

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
 Office of the Chief Clerk
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The iconic New Sweden Church, emblematic of the area that residents are trying to preserve.
 Photo by Susan Garry



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New Sweden Church News

The church at New Sweden has been blessed with the gift of a new organ. The organ was dedicated on June 4 and was given in memory of Howard and Willella Lundgren by the descendants of the Lundgren family. The dedication ceremony featured the organ artistry of Christina Harmon, who has performed at concerts and hosted seminars in America and Europe. The concert was well attended and demonstrated to attendees the wide versatility of the instrument.

Also, at the dedication service, New Sweden Minister of Music, Yvonne Creppon, was honored for her 57 years of service to the New Sweden Church.

By the time this article has been published, the church will have held the annual picnic at the David and Terry Ramm ranch near Elgin. This year it was held on Sunday afternoon, July 23, beginning at 1 p.m. The event features a number of water activities for the children as well as "Paintball."

This year, the church will again provide backpacks and school supplies for students in need of these items in three area schools. The Coupland School has been one of the recipients for three years. This project of the church grows a little bigger each year.

The Bible study on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, beginning at 10 a.m., will center on the book of Romans. There is another Bible study on the first Thursday of each month beginning at 6:30 p.m. This second Bible study is a women's Bible study. A third Bible study for all is at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday morning before Worship Services. That study is a study of the scriptures used for the Sunday Worship Service.

Due to the resignation of our former secretary, we are pleased to announce that Susan Rountree has taken over that position. The church office hours are now Tuesday and Friday mornings from 9 a.m. to noon. The church telephone is open for calls at all times.

There are a number of people each week who come to visit this historic church. If you or your visitors would like a tour of the church, please call 512-281-0056 for a time we can make it available to you.

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Summer Greetings from Arts Convergence

Tarrant County College Gathers Letitia's Art, Documents, and Sketchbooks for Their Permanent Collection

It appears we are in another Texas HOT weather challenge. What's News? First is "Nuevo," new work by AC gouache artist Karl Senn of Taylor! Then, a welcome in house visit with David Garcia, arts theatre events producer and former Hotsun Productions company performer in the New York City La Mama Experimental Theatre Club production of 1973.

And then, Arts Converger, Colin Nelson, sends us his eye-witness digital report from London. He scooped the Royal academy of the Arts open call exhibition, relaying images of their many local cutting-edge creators, multi-media creators in the UK now.

Meanwhile, here at ArtBloc, we have our own Shout Outs! First, for team Teresa and Joe for their new "MowJo Lawn Service" start-up! Great job guys. The Mow-Jos groomed, trimmed and cleaned our tattered landscape showing off its best. Their conscientious skilled efforts saved the struggling black diamond myrtle mowed down previously. We are devoted fans. Give them a call for great customized results for your landscape. They advertise a scope of services like "fencing, flooring, mowing, edging, blowing and weed eating." Their number: 808-398-5600 for all seasons, btw.

Simultaneously, ArtBloc's international painter, Peter Julian, succeeds with his vegetable garden patch this year (a first). And, with him, we all enjoy his long-distance drop-in guest from her home in France, the beautiful Olivia. Olivia is a fond reminder of how the French radically influenced the path of modern art in society and sympathies. Great fun.

As for myself, Letitia, I look forward to my 79th birthday August 1. Pow! Then, shortly thereafter, a celebration with Tom Kellam from Fort Worth here in Coupland. Tom is District Archivist of Tarrant County College. He makes his trip to Coupland to begin gathering their selection of original art, documents, and LE sketchbooks for TCC permanent collection library; truly an acknowledgement of God's grace for me.

I want to give huge thanks for our AC Art Book Reading Room patrons. This last quarter we were gifted several terrific historic volumes. One from Jeff Hamrick, Fort Worth attorney and art collector, a Sam Francis book of writings and images, titled *Saturated Blue*. Another, a great historic era critical art survey, *The Impressionists*. This impressive tutorial was gifted to AC from Susan and Buz Garry. Two fine books not at all easy to find these days. We treasure, read, and share these books. I invite you each to come for a read. Just email (artsconv@gmail.com) or text me , @ 210 727 9975 for an appointment. Please do come read.

Yours Truly,

Letitia Eldredge
Executive Director of Arts Convergence

"Nuevo" is this quarter's new painting idea from Taylor AC artist Karl Senn.



Photos by Letitia Eldredge



Visiting AC in Coupland was David Garcia, who worked with Letitia on her performance art events from 1973 through 1978. The art and performance collective, called Hotsun Productions, did museum shows and artist residencies in Austin, San Antonio, Houston, and New York. Letitia says "There were five, sometimes seven of us. The folks did everything company artists do. We took care of our studios, the scripts, performance, the music, the labor, the self-funding. I was the company leader but not a solo artist. David went on to form his own companies and had long term success in San Antonio, his hometown."

Type Church News

By Charlene Hanson Jordan

Type Church is a Bible church committed to the word of God and the love of God's people.

Sunday church services start at 10:30 a.m. Welcome!

Wednesday Bible study starts back up on August 30 at 6 p.m. Wednesday family fun nights will culminate with a Back to School Bash on August 2. This will include yard games, a bounce house, and hot dogs.

The photo shows dirt work being done at the Type Church. It's where the old barracks building used to stand. Vernon Cardwell has finished spreading the soil with his tractor and he is smoothing it out with his Kawasaki and an old tractor tire in preparation for planting grass.

Type Church is in the neighborhood. The address is 1200 County Road 466 and Pastor Ryan Evans' phone number is (281) 229-8962. He can also be reached at pastorryan91@gmail.com.



Dirt work at Type Church

Photo by Sarah Cardwell

Jordan Switches From *Courier* to Patreon



Author Charlene Hanson Jordan has switched from writing a weekly article about local history in the *Elgin Courier* to a different medium. She's writing articles in her new Patreon site that was launched on July 3.

The articles in Patreon are in three categories: local area history, such as the war story of Alfred Robert Streit from Coupland; local Swedish history; and local German history. These include photographs where available. The Swedish and German articles are based on the genealogical tours she led to Sweden and Germany and on her husband's growing up in Berlin during World War II.

Her Patreon website costs \$3 per month with comments and questions welcomed. Follow her there at patreon.com/CharleneHansonJordan.

Charlene Hanson Jordan's Writings Are Now on Patreon!

Patreon--content creators run a subscription service. Over 250,000 creators--over 8 million patrons from 200+ countries. Creators set up a page on the website; patrons pay a monthly subscription to the creator.

Charlene writes a weekly article in the *Elgin Courier*.

Now she is switching from a local newspaper to an international website.

Her articles will appear in her new Patreon site that was launched on July 3.

Three categories of her Patreon articles:

- Local area history
- Local Swedish history
- Local German history

Charlene pours all of her previous experience into her writing. She has done research, written books, and led European tours. To experience all this and more—Subscribe to her Patreon website for \$3 per month.

Follow her there at patreon.com/CharleneHansonJordan

Upcoming Coupland Civic Organization Events

National Night Out

National Night Out will be held on August 1 at the Depot with free hotdogs and homemade cookies. It may have already occurred by the time you get this *Herald*. Right, at last year's National Night Out are CCO President Susan Schmidt and Board Members Jonathan Jones and Becky Sutton.

All Are Welcome
At All Events.



Choo Choo Fest

The annual Choo Choo Fest will be October 15, with the usual delicious BBQ dinner from Master Chef Peter Wabbel, silent auction, and bake sale. Above, at last year's Choo Choo Fest, BBQ is served by Mayor Jack Piper, City Alderwoman Karen Marosko, and Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Piper.

Trunk or Treat

Also in October will be the Halloween Trunk or Treat. Residents have fun dressing in costumes and decorating their vehicles. The kiddies are able to trick or treat from vehicle to vehicle. Below, trick or treaters in the sunset in front of St. Peter's Church at last year's Trunk or Treat.



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**Deadline for the next issue,
November 2023, is October 10.**

Talley Muery Celebrates 80th Birthday—By Rebecca Muery

Talley Muery will celebrate his 80th birthday on September 20 surrounded by family and friends (and BBQ)! Talley and his late wife, Judy, built their life and raised their family in Coupland. "Poppa" is often overheard calling one of his 9 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren his "Coupland Cowboys and Cowgirls." He is dearly loved and continues to be an avid horseman. We love you Dad and look forward to many more years with you!

