

COUPLAND HERALD



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What's Happening in the City?

By Mayor Jack Piper and Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Piper

I believe everyone is aware of the fact that road maintenance is the biggest and most crucial concern for not only the citizens of Coupland, but also for the entire council as well. Patching potholes has become the "norm". Moisture works its way under the asphalt on CR 458 because the base on this roadway is so very poor. It has been pointed out on numerous occasions the issue the city faces. The only problem the city must deal with is the ability to correctly remedy this problem. We understand that the present cost to completely redo this roadway is in the neighborhood of one million dollars per mile. That equates to over two million dollars for this stretch of road.

(Continued on page 3)



At the bond meeting, Superintendent Brinkman answers a question from Prissy Rumel, center.

Photo by Susan Garry

Superintendent Brinkman Discusses School Bonds

On the May 6 ballot, there will be a bond election to build new Middle School facilities for Coupland School. The election may have already taken place by the time the Herald is out. The school's recently completed facilities are already filled up, and the school had to add a portable building over spring break. It is proposed that the elementary students will remain in the existing facilities and the middle schoolers will be in new facilities that will be built east of Coupland on property that the school already owns. Plans are to build core facilities such as cafeteria, kitchen, and art and music facilities that will be shared eventually by a high school, while classroom wings can be added in the future.

On April 19, Superintendent Tammy Brinkman hosted a meeting to discuss the proposed facilities and the bond election. Enrollment is almost 300, and she noted that in 8 years, it has doubled, and there are twice as many staff members. She said, "We are over capacity." About the population growth in the area and the overcrowding in the school, she said, "It is not a matter of if; it is a matter of when."

(Continued on page 3)

President's Message

By Susan Schmidt, CCO President

Spring is here! Mother Nature put on quite a show with all the beautiful wildflowers. The Bluebonnets were particularly pretty and plentiful. I loved their scent when I went into my backyard.

Looking back to 10 years ago, the very first city election was held on May 11, 2013. Since Coupland is Type B, General Law City, the law required Coupland to have five aldermen/women as well as a mayor. Jack Piper was elected mayor. Aldermen/women elected were Karen Marosko, Susan Garry, Eldridge Tidwell, Barbara Piper and Susan Schmidt.

St. Peters Church of Coupland dedicated a new facility for meetings, meals and activities. This is the same facility the Coupland Civic Organization uses for our meetings and Choo Choo Fest. It is indeed a pleasure to be able to use this facility.

CCO February Meeting—State of the City and More

By Sarah Torluemke

The February 27 meeting was called to order at 7:15. The first speaker was **Jack Piper**, Mayor, who reported on the State of the City of Coupland.

Jack pointed out that the City incorporated a little over 10 years ago with a net worth of a little over \$2000, which was comprised of donations. Today the net worth of the City is over \$425,000. He also wants people to know the annual budget is posted on the City's website.

He spoke about road work and pointed out that to totally redo County Road 458, which is an ongoing problem, would cost about 2 million dollars. The City can only continue to do the most pressing repairs. There was some minimal discussion about that road. It was pointed out that the City is considering various options.

He also brought up the Annual Clean Up Day. There has always been a problem with people living outside the City bringing their trash and people bringing illegal items and leaving them after the dumpsters closed up for the day. He and other volunteers have had to deal with this every year. He said he no longer wishes to be involved in the event and that perhaps someone else would be interested in taking it over.

The City is currently pursuing annexing some land at County Road 453 and Highway 95.

John Roulston-Bates presented information on the Fire Department. A merger between the Coupland VFD and the Thrall VFD has been completed. Later they agreed to become

Ten years ago, Coupland residents were still wondering if a freight rail project proposed to run from Taylor to San Antonio would be built west of Coupland. Thankfully, none of this came to fruition.

If I could look forward 10 years from now, I wonder what I would see around Coupland? Unfortunately, I think I would see many subdivisions and less open spaces. I know growth is coming and we must adjust.

Just a reminder, the CCO does not meet during May and July. When we resume in August, it will be the observance of National Night Out, held at the Depot.

Have a wonderful, safe summer. We'll see you at National Night Out.

Susan Schmidt

a part of Emergency Services District #10. This has entailed some reorganization, but will not mean closure of the Coupland Fire Station. Discussion is also underway to merge a part of the Taylor Volunteer Fire Department into ESD #10.

Susan Schmidt presented the past year's accomplishments and future plans of the Coupland Civic Organization. These include National Night Out, Choo Choo Fest, and Trunk or Treat. These will continue into the current year. At this time, no firm plans are in place for the Fall Golf Tournament. The next meeting will feature the Fire Department presenting a class to refresh skills for CPR. This would be open to anyone wishing to attend.



Getting ready to serve supper at the February CCO meeting are Treasurer Becky Sutton, President Susan Schmidt, Mayor Pro Tem Barbara Piper, and Mayor Jack Piper.

Photo by Susan Garry

(Continued from page 1) City News

Several years ago, the city paid to have a traffic study done at several different times of the day. We were all amazed at the travel speed of persons travelling on CR 458. Signs are posted notifying travelers of the dangerous road conditions. We will continue to use the funds available to make this road as safe as is possible but ask that all who travel please obey the speed limit signs that are posted.

Council members met with the city’s Public Improvement District representative to once again learn more about what this type district imposes, the risks involved, and the overall implications this might have for years to come. Decisions have yet to be made regarding this type of district.

Work continues on a nuisance ordinance and discussions with other surrounding cities on what their ordinances cover. Conversations have also been initiated concerning employing (strictly contract basis) a code enforcement officer.

The Council approved an ordinance de-annexing and discontinuing approximately 20.906 acres, more or less, from being part of the city. This is part of the Greenview Development project (Hwy. 95 and CR 453). The City of Coupland negotiated to get the 26+ acres of commercial that is part of this development (approved in December of 2022).

LaVerne Rohlack resigned from her position of City Secretary. The Council is appreciative of her efforts over these past several years. Thank you LaVerne!

Upcoming Coupland Civic Organization Dates

There will not be a Coupland Civic Organization meeting in April. As always, there will not be a May meeting because of the conflict with Memorial Day. There will be a June meeting, Monday, June 26.

As usual, National Night Out will be held in August at the Depot with free hotdogs and homemade cookies.

Planning will start for this year’s Choo Choo Fest, which will be held on October 8.

(Continued from page 1) School Bonds

Superintendent Brinkman showed a graph of the school districts in the area comparing tax rates. Coupland has the lowest tax rate. She explained, “Coupland ISD has the best reports in the area and lower taxes.” The bond amount is \$56 million, but she said, “We won’t spend it all if we don’t need to.” She noted that there will be a zero tax rate increase for senior citizens age 65 and up. The Board of Trustees has been fiscally prudent; since 2020, they have dropped the total tax rate by over 20 cents.

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

Jay Sutton
Financial Advisor

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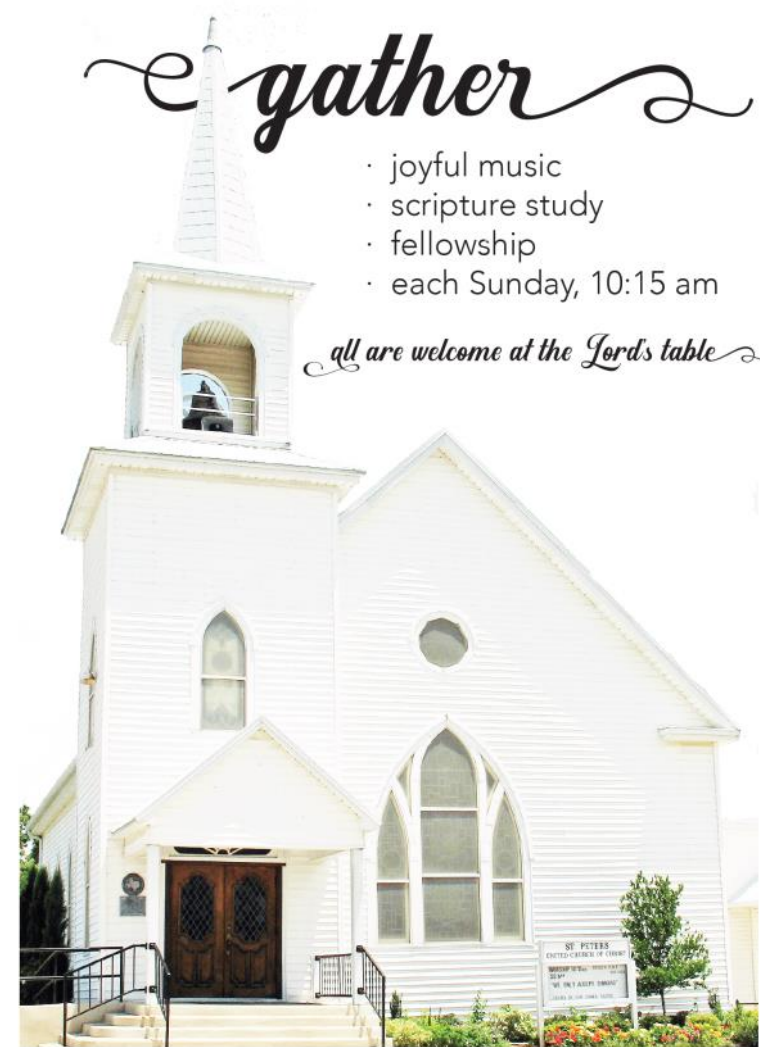
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St. Peter's Church News

By Interim Pastor Charles Stark

Spring is a wonderful time of year in Texas. As we drive out into the countryside, we are greeted by the Bluebonnets and the Paintbrush. This year the display is really awe inspiring. It is a reminder of the new life that God promises to each of us.

St. Peter's Church has a long history as the church on a hill in Coupland. The ministry of this church dates back to 1894. For over 128 years, this congregation has been proclaiming the Good News of the Gospel to this community. Back in March, I got to experience a little bit of history of another sort. On March 19, I was surprised when Scott Ging rang the doorbell on a beautiful Sunday afternoon and asked if I wanted to go for a ride in his Dad's 1930 Model A. It was a wonderful experience to ride through the countryside and take in both the beauty of the wildflowers and hear some of the local history from Scott.



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Charles Stark, Interim Pastor

As many of you might recall, in October of 2021, HBO Max and Warner Brothers spent a month on location here in Coupland in which the church was prominently featured as the Lucas United Methodist Church. This series starring Elizabeth Olsen is based on a true story from Wiley, Texas. This story will be portrayed in a 7-part limited series entitled "Love and Death." The series will premiere on HBO Max on April 27 and run through May 25.

There is a lot of excitement at St. Peter's Church of Coupland. We had a wonderful workday on April 1 to spruce up the church for Easter. We are also working on preparations to receive a candidate for settled pastor on April 29-30. There will be a meet and greet with the Rev. Scott Wasdin on Saturday afternoon, April 29, at 4 p.m. On Sunday morning, April 30, Rev. Wasdin will lead worship, and then there will be a special called meeting of the congregation to vote on extending a call to Rev. Wasdin to be the settled pastor. This search has taken 1 year and 9 months. It has been a challenge for the congregation to remain patient and hopeful that God was at work in this search process. Assuming there is a vote to call Rev. Wasdin, he and his wife and 4 children will be moving from Massachusetts to Coupland near the end of June. All his children are school age and will be enrolled in the Coupland School. Scott has promised that he will be involved in supporting the Coupland ISD.

What this means for me is that I will be concluding my interim ministry with the church and retiring to our family farm 7 miles away. It will be a time to say our goodbyes and make way for the arrival of a new settled pastor. I encourage you to visit the church on any Sunday morning at 10:15 and see how this congregation is making a difference in this community. At St. Peter's Church you will find that no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

January 30 Coupland Civic Organization Meeting Cancelled

The January meeting was cancelled due to weather. The topic the State of the City was presented at the February meeting. See Sarah Torluemke's account of this meeting on page 2. To receive meeting announcements, join Jennifer Dollins's community-wide email list at jennifer@couplandtx.org.

Recognition for the Old Coupland Inn & Dancehall

The Old Coupland Inn & Dancehall was named as one of the top five dancehalls in Texas in the April issue of *Southern Living* magazine.

Roulston-Bates Presents CPR Training to CCO

By Sarah Torluemke

At the March 27 Coupland Civic Organization meeting, the board of directors hosted a dinner, and then the meeting was called to order and turned over to District 1 Fire Chief John Roulston-Bates.

John explained some about the AEDs (defibrillators) found in various locations these days. He explained that a primary use of the machine is to monitor the heart rate once the included pads are in place. It will tell the user if "shocking" is needed. The Volunteer Fire Department is planning to install three new machines in

Coupland. These will be located at Stock Up, the Bank and perhaps the Dance Hall.

John then presented a short film. The film pointed out the importance of doing the following if a person collapses: CHECK (is there already a heartbeat?); CALL (for assistance or have someone else call); COMPRESS (use CPR if needed). He repeated that checking for a heartbeat is important. With a heartbeat, CPR may not be needed. The AED can tell the user if CPR or the defibrillator is needed.

Participants were then invited to learn/practice CPR. They were Sandra and Don Wernli, Judy Downing, Becky Sutton, Susan Schmidt, Ruby Wabbel, Charles Stark, and Ted Wittliff. After practice, John answered questions and made a few more comments. He repeated the AED will tell the user if the defibrillator is needed if there is doubt. Participants were presented with a certificate indicating they had completed the training.

Tremendous Luncheon on March 21, Next One Will Be May 16

We had a tremendous Luncheon on March 21 even though it was a rainy day! 61 plus Senior Citizens attended our Luncheon. Our dessert, Strawberry Dream Cake, was a tribute to our departed member, Marge Gebhart.

Our Hostesses were: Sandra Wernli and Don Wernli, Becky Sutton, Janet Doss, Hermania Vitek, Cindy Alexander, Bonnie Sladek, Cynthia Wittliff, and Lois Schmidt. Helpers were: Wanda Walther, Arthur and Joyce Henze, JoAnn Ging, and Charlotte Albert for decorations, Cindy Wood, and Evelyn Draehn. Pastor Charles did our Blessing.

We had lots of Bingo players and 3 tables of "42" Dominoes. Thanks to all who helped with our Luncheon!

Our next Luncheon will be on May 16 at 11:30 a.m. Bingo and "42" Dominoes will be played. You are encouraged to bring a prize \$10 and under if you are playing Bingo. Be sure to join us for another Fun Luncheon!

Co-Chairmen,

Lois Schmidt & Sandra Wernli,

Top, Roulston-Bates teaches CPR.

Bottom, the class practices CPR.

Photos by Sarah Torluemke



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Emergency Services District #10 News

By Maranda Cummings

Administrative Support, Williamson County 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.

You may have heard about the ESD being approached about possibly annexing part of the Avery-Pickett (Taylor VFD) Fire District. In June 2022, a citizen in the Avery-Pickett VFD Fire District asked the ESD about the annexation process. In July 2022, the same citizen spoke to the board about the possibility of an annexation. Bob Avant, ESD Board President, explained at least 50 landowners who are registered voters from the territory wishing annexation

must submit a petition to the board. The ESD must then validate the signatures and set a hearing no sooner than 30 days of receiving the petition. The election is then ordered if the ESD board members wish to do so. The ESD is required to reimburse the County for the cost of the election. On December 21, 2022, the citizen was informed that in order to meet the requirements for the May 2023 election, a petition would need to be received by the ESD no later than the end of December 2022. On January 7, 2023, a petition with 99 names was filed with the ESD. The next step in the annexation process was to set a hearing for the petition. The public hearing was set for the same day as the next regular board meeting on February 14, 2023. At that meeting, the board made the decision to order an election for May 6, 2023, to annex the areas east of the Taylor ETJ. The election is final if a majority of the voters from the territory and the ESD vote in favor of the annexation.

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.



The Coupland Volunteer Fire Department held its annual Chili Supper on March 11. Proceeds will be used to provide defibrillators and “stop the bleed” kits.

Photo courtesy of Coupland Volunteer Fire Department

Thank You To Our Fire Department

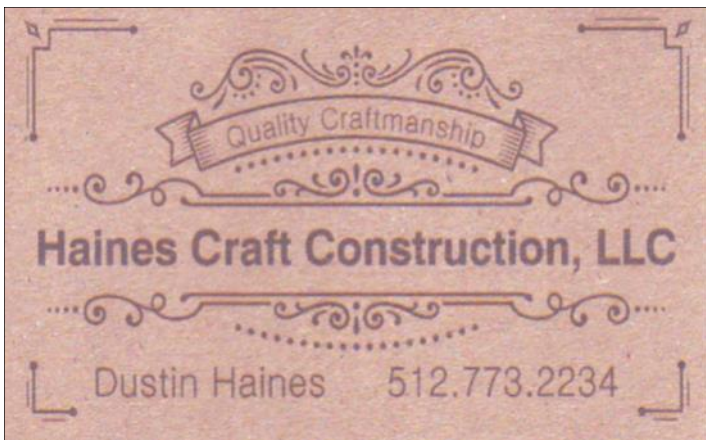
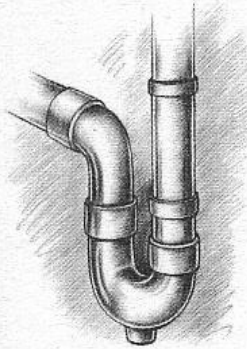
From Sarah Torluemke

Not long ago, there was a grass fire that started between the Sowers farm and my house. Our Fire Department responded promptly and was joined by Bill Doss and one of his sons on tractors with tillers attached.

While the Fire Department did their job (most excellently), the Doss’s cut “fire breaks” with their tillers. They were able to quickly cut lines to divert the fire from my house.

This event served to remind me we need to always be grateful for our Fire Department. They deserve any support we can give. We also need to be always grateful for the farmers and other citizens that are there to assist when they can.

Thank you all for your efforts.

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Coupland School News -- By Kate Knappek, Assistant Principal

On March 28, the Coupland Track team finished another successful season at the district track meet in Gause.

Coupland ISD had another successful year raising funds for the American Heart Association. This year's Kids Heart Challenge mission was to "Be the Torch." Coach Kyle Rinderknecht said, "All PK-5th grade students worked in the community to spread the message of being heart healthy. We would like to thank all community members that contributed over \$5,000 towards this great cause."

On April 21, Coupland middle school students performed their spring musical, *We Will Rock You*. Featuring chart-topping Queen songs including "Another One Bites the Dust," "Bohemian Rhapsody," "Killer Queen," "We Will Rock You," "Somebody To Love," "We Are the Champions," and many more, this 70-minute adaptation of the West End show follows two young rebels as they restore rock 'n' roll to "the iPlanet" in a post-apocalyptic world. Theatre Director Annie Violette said, "WE WILL ROCK YOU Young@Part® is a musical for our time: a fist-pumping, foot-stomping anthem to individuality."

On March 1st, the 8th grade class attended a career fair at the Williamson County Expo. Tanya Alaniz explained, "Students were exposed to various companies that provide on the job training and other available opportunities once students graduate from high school and want to join the workforce."

Back Row - Coach Rinderknecht, Noah Schultz, Logan Middaugh, Tucker Roepke, Jayden Clarke, Omar Benitez, Kody Smith, Jerson Alvarenga, Jimmy Etheredge, Coach Stayci Burris; Front Row - Kalli Coffey, Miranda Herring, Becca Thomas, Abigail Viktora, Mikayla Hyzak, Sarah Herring



Top Fundraisers with Coach Rinderknecht: Chase Molineux, Harley Brumley, Lexann Konarek, Beau Randig, Noah Garcia, Landon Turner, David Silva, Jaxon Herring, Daisy Garza, Brody Randig

Top Fundraiser for the School: David Silva with Coach Rinderknecht



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The 8th graders will be taking an educational trip to Washington, D.C., during the summer of 2024. They are fundraising to help offset the cost for the students attending. Our first big fundraiser was a success! It was a parent's night out at the school. We had 25 kids attend and they all said it was a blast! Aviator's Pizza in Elgin donated 10 pizzas for the event and we were able to fundraise \$500 toward the student's trip!

Hunter Bolinger and Gina DeFosset represented the group by going to the school board meeting to ask for the board to waive any costs of renting the school facilities to do fundraising. They created a Google Slide presentation with videos and photos. Rebecca Vernier said, "The board approved their request which is awesome! We are so proud of them for doing the presentation. It is hard enough to stand up in front of your peers and do a presentation but to do it for the school board was impressive!"

Coupland Kindergarten attended a rip-roaring round up of a field trip to Austin Rodeo Fairgrounds! The students learned about livestock, participated in pig races, loved the animals at the petting zoo, and enjoyed lunch in the arena. Melissa Price added, "Kindergarten also received reading certificates for participating in Book It!"

Briana Larson reported, "The fourth-grade students visited Washington on the Brazos on Friday, March 31. They enjoyed learning about the Texas Republic and life in the 1840s."

Special Announcement! The retirement party for Gerri Woods and Kathy Hill will be held on Friday, May 19, beginning at 3:30 in the School Library. Say Good-bye to these ladies who have given so much to the school over the years.



Top to bottom
 Kindergarten field trip to Austin Rodeo Fairgrounds.
 Kindergarten Book It! Certificates.
 Fourth-grade students at Washington on the Brazos.



Career Fair: From far left on previous page, Jason Beckwith, Jimmy Etheredge, Jayden Clarke, Esteban Barriga
 Sophi Ruiz-Rios
 Immediate left, Tanya Alaniz and Jennifer Plant.

All photos courtesy of Coupland School



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Q&A with Jim Huntington By Wells Mason

Sculptor Jim Huntington has undertaken a new and different project—a series of drawings. Wells Mason is also a sculptor and a designer. He talked to Jim about the drawings and below is information from their visit.

Question: How long have you been in Coupland? Where did you come from and what brought you here?

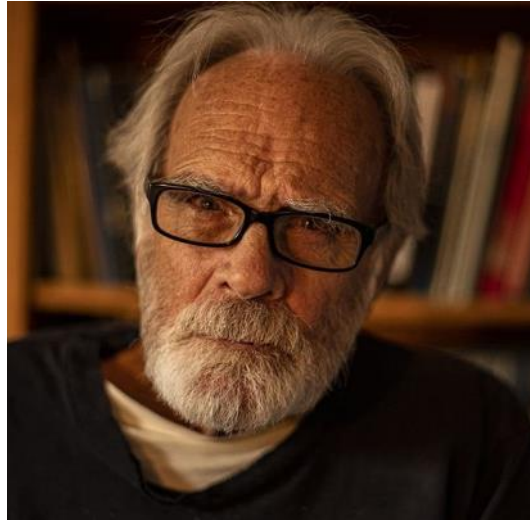
Answer: I came to Texas in 1994 when NYC became untenable for me. I always liked the feeling of Texas. It reminded me of what America once was.

Question: Tell us about what you're working on now. What's the name of your new series of drawings?

Answer: No name

Question: Can you describe these new drawings in terms of materials and process?

Answer: All of my large sculptures are opaque stone. Some of the "Copper Capers" are translucent stone, which I love and I get at Nature's Treasures in Austin. The drawings on 9" X 12" "Fabriano Black Black Paper" allow me to achieve transparency/translucency with powdered pigment and pastels. For most of my life, I have combined disparate materials or qualities such as natural edges/forms juxtaposed with sharp hard edges - which has carried into these drawings. It is my hope that this series of drawings is imbued with some of the same intangible spirit as my sculptures. These drawings have given me meaning and value and carried me to a new meadow - and I thank God every day for that gift.



Question: In your work, what inspires you?

Answer: The ever-unfolding possibility of making something new and surprising myself. I love the mystery and revelation of the whole enterprise.

Question: How was NYC untenable for you?

Answer: There was no place for me...I felt like a "stranger in a strange land," so it made sense to consider a radical change, hence Texas.

Question: What do you like most about Coupland, Texas?

Answer: I like the calm and quiet of Coupland even if I miss my friends and the museums, galleries, and cultural wealth of NYC.

Question: How can someone arrange to see your new drawings?

Answer: They can call ahead at (512) 856-2334. Or they can email jim@huntingtonsculpture.org to set up a mutually convenient time.

Jim's drawings will also be on display in a special exhibition this fall at the Ironwood Industries Remote Studio during the Chinati Weekend Open House in Marfa, Texas, October 6-8.

Jim Huntington is a long-time resident of Coupland. He's a career artist as well as a prominent member of the Coupland community. He served on the Coupland Water Supply Corporation Board of Directors for several years including President. His sculpture foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization headquartered in downtown Coupland. The sculpture garden is open to the public 365 days a year.

(Continued on page 15)

Jim Huntington photo portrait by Andy Sharp

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Spring Greetings with News from Arts Convergence

Trinity River Music Project Acquires Coupland Material for Historic North Texas Music Archive

Last Quarter's arts news begins with our voluminous "Thank You's" for kind, generous volunteers and patrons who helped in bringing Arts Convergence's historic documents, relics, photos, and theatrical events to light for an archives search and review. On March 29, William Lewis Williams of the Trinity River Music Project visited Coupland Arts Convergence to begin a search and study of the material that I have gathered over the years. TRM is "Researching and Archiving North Texas Music History" while exploring the impact of its musicians and performance art venues (during the 1980's through to the 2000's) on the Texas social milieu at the time.

Their focus is to recover identities and details lost over time and to expound on relationships and talents that surged with the explosion of so many original music artists taking the stage. The impact of the combined arts on urban development in Dallas, Denton, and Fort Worth venues in particular expanded those local communities' outreach to a broad international audience.

As a practicing artist during those times, I had crossed paths with many performers, and, as a publicist is inclined to do, I kept scores of flyers, snapshots, and notes. Williams visited Coupland to begin digging through this material.

It was a delight to help with our material that provided personal reflections and depth to the larger topic of North Texas Music History. It is very exciting to realize that our archives in Coupland will be preserved as part of a bigger archive.

Thanks to Karen van Buren for her consistent help over the months, clearing and labeling those files. Thank you good neighbor Barbara Worthy for her help grooming the grounds for Williams' visit. Thank you Susan Garry for coming to greet our guest as Coupland's leading archivist, and Buz Garry for the platter full of his yummy homemade cookies.

As Williams finishes studying the initial material, he will come back for a second visit in May when he will also visit Jim Huntington's Sculpture Garden. For more information on Jim, see Wells Mason's article on page 10.

On another project, AC's Art Books Reading Room thanks Fort Worth attorney, Benjamin Jeff Hamrick, for his gifts of three more contemporary art survey books adding centuries of depth to our study hall. The books are *The Drawings of Rembrandt*, *The Paintings of Wassily Kandinsky*, and the modern works of Irish artist, Sean Scully.

Before closing, I wish to mention Karl Senn, painter from Taylor, who kept the spirit of creation aloft with his beautiful geometric abstract painting series; and Coupland art guy Peter Julian for working on his own archives project on Hoxie, with verve and good results.

It takes a community! If you have questions or interest in what we are doing around here, let us know at artsconv@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you and what you are dreaming up.

Yours Sincerely,
Letitia Eldredge
Director, Arts Convergence



William and Letitia look through her archives for material to include in the North Texas Music History Archive.

Photo by Susan Garry



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New Sweden Church News

By Barbara Carisalez

Spring has sprung and we are having fun at New Sweden Lutheran Church. We started March off with the continued Wednesday evening Lenten Services in the Parish Hall. Then the church parking lot was utilized as a water stop for the Rosedale Bike Ride. With April came the blessed Easter week, Maundy Thursday service, Good Friday Fish Fry, Easter Sunrise Service at the cemetery, then morning Easter Service in the Sanctuary.

For the second year, New Sweden Lutheran Church held a special community event, "Blessing of the Bicycles" service by Rev. Hans Lillejord in partnership with Texas Mamma Jamma on the church grounds. A tour of the church was at 10 a.m., the blessing at 10:30 a.m., then light refreshments following the blessing.

We continued into April with the Swedish Heritage Day with history displays of the nearby Swedish communities, a wood carving demonstration, Swedish weaving display, May-pole dance, then a homemade Swedish meal.

On May 4 at 7 p.m. the ladies Bible study group will meet and continue with the study of the Ten Commandments. A day trip is also planned in May to visit New Braunfels and Gruene. On June 22 is the Swedish Midsummer Event held at the Elgin SPJST Hall. On Sunday, June 25, at 7 p.m., New Sweden Lutheran Church will host the annual "God & Country" patriotic program. Burgers and hot dogs for a donation will be available prior to the program with ice cream served afterwards.

In July we will pack backpacks for those in need in nearby communities. The New Sweden Lutheran Church continues to have morning Bible study at 10 a.m. on the second Tuesday and Thursday mornings of the month, Game nights are at 7 p.m. on the second, third, and fourth Thursdays of the month. All are welcome at the New Sweden Lutheran Church.



**New Sweden Evan.
Lutheran Church**
 12809 New Sweden Church Road
 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Class
 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Youth
 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
 Hans Lillejord, Pastor
 Office 281-0056 Cell 947-9044
 Ofc. Hours 9 - Noon Tues. & Thurs.

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Manda School Open House & Community Gathering - Saturday, June 10

Southside BBQ will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 followed by a Program. Tickets are \$15 and must be purchased in advance. Join us and see the restoration while enjoying delicious BBQ! Southside Meat Market has supported Manda School for 77 years!

For tickets or more information please call Susan Erickson at 512-413-6027.

Manda School is a 1915 two-room schoolhouse now used as a community center in the New Sweden/Manda area.



Historic Manda School is on Manda Carlson Road west of Coupland.

Photo courtesy of Susan Erickson

**Coupland Water Supply Corporation
P O Box 141
Coupland, Texas 78615**

Please note these new regulations for customers of the Coupland Water Supply Corporation:

Transfer Fees Versus Tap Fees

As of January 26, 2018, these regulations relate to any customer who wants to use the CWSC sewer system.

These new regulations supersede the previous policies governing Transfer Fees and Tap Fees:

- a) If a property within the boundary of the CWSC is sold or otherwise transferred to a new property owner, and if the Tap Fee was never paid for that property, then the new property owner must pay the one-time Tap Fee in order to connect to the sewer system.
- b) If a property within the boundary of the CWSC has at any time been legally connected to the sewer system, the new property owner is not obligated to pay the one-time Tap Fee but must pay the Transfer Fee in order to resume a connection to the sewer system.
- c) Please note that additional Tap Fees are required in the event a property owner wants additional connections to the sewer system. Please note that any and all connections to the sewer system are subject to review and approval by the CWSC Board of Directors.

For information call Karen Marosko, Secretary/Treasurer at 512-856--2435

Type Church News

The Type Church congregation is enjoying new comfortable chairs that recently replaced the pews in the sanctuary.

The old Camp Swift barracks building that served as the sanctuary when the present church was first established in the 1980s has been torn down. Termite and mold damage was too great to save the building. It stood on the other side of the cemetery from the original Type Free Mission Church that was erected in 1909. The next step is to add soil and plant grass where the building once stood. All the demolition work was done by church members.

Type Church welcomes you. Type Church east of Coupland offers activities for children, and study, friendship, and fellowship for adults. Pastor Ryan Evans is a dedicated young pastor who drives miles to serve the congregation at Type.

The church can be likened to a large rowboat on the ocean headed for a Heavenly port. The oarsmen/women are the church members and the pastor is the captain encouraging them and helping them reach their destination.

Don't miss the boat bound for Heaven. Come by and talk with Pastor Ryan. He is at the church on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, for Bible Study on Wednesday evenings, and for Sunday morning services at 10:30 a.m. The number to call is (281) 229-8962 and the address is 1200 County Road 466.

New Book by Charlene Hanson Jordan Covers Pre- and Post-Civil War History of Our Area

The book "Notes & Recollections, Post Oak Island & Elgin, Texas" is finished. See the ad on this page regarding how to obtain a copy.

The book explores the pre- and post-Civil War history of local plantations. The difference between a farm and a plantation was that plantations used slave labor. Post Oak Island Masonic Lodge 181 was founded in that time period and its history is told in detail. The book contains descriptions of agriculture, foods, transportation, way of life, churches/pastors, historical events affecting people and descriptions by Olmsted and others.

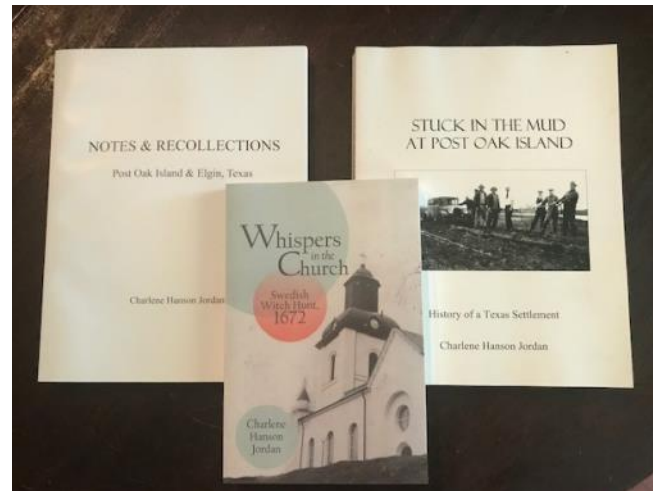
A new project is a weekly half-page article in the *Elgin Courier*. The articles are all new research and not excerpts from "Notes & Recollections." The first articles have been about the pre-Civil War period, Hogeye, the early settlers including the Standifers, Youngs, Barkers, Averys, Wilbarger's widow, and the Freedom Colonies. Current articles are a series about Enon Lanfear and the camels at Hogeye. Upcoming articles will be about David Satterwhite and Horace Scruggs in the Bataan Death March.

Right, the Type congregation enjoys new chairs during a candle-light service.

Photo by Sarah Cardwell



Below, some of the books by Coupland author Charlene Hanson Jordan. Her newest one is "Notes & Recollections."



"NOTES & RECOLLECTIONS," Post Oak Island & Elgin, Texas, is available from Charlene Jordan. Email charlenehansonjordan@yahoo.com or call (512) 856-2562. Text: 512-661-4237.

The address is 1361 CR 464, Elgin, TX 78621. It is about 4.5 miles east of Coupland in the Type community.

The book is also available at the Elgin Depot Museum, from the Niswanders at the Elgin Farmers Market, and at the *Elgin Courier*, 105 N. Main, Elgin.

Right, Wells and Jessica Mason speaking to a Coupland Civic Organization meeting.

Photo by Susan Garry



(Continued from page 10)
Jim Huntington/Wells Mason

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, Austin, and Marfa.

CCO Explained

The quarterly *Herald* newsletter is a project of the Coupland Civic Organization or CCO. The CCO is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that hosts events for the good of the community and for the enjoyment of residents—monthly meetings, National Night Out, Choo Choo Fest, Trunk or Treat, and Santa at the Depot. There is no official membership in the CCO. All residents are always welcome at any and all of the CCO events. Anyone can sign up with Jennifer Dollins to be on the community-wide email list and receive announcements—jennifer@couplandtx.org. Thanks to Susan Schmidt, CCO President, for all her efforts. Other board members are listed on the front page of the *Herald*, which is a totally volunteer effort. The advertising funds help us pay for printing and mailing.



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*Publication of the
Coupland Civic
Organization*

Coupland Herald, May 2023

Published quarterly by the Coupland Civic Organization (CCO), which reserves the right to determine content. Copyright CCO.

The *Herald* reaches 700 Coupland-area addresses. Business card ads \$25. Other sizes available. Contact Susan Garry, editor, at susan_garry@hotmail.com.

Contributors to this issue: Sarah Cardwell, Barbara Carisalez, Maranda Cummings, Letitia Eldredge, Susan Erickson, Charlene Hanson Jordan, Kate Knapek, Karen Marosko, Wells and Jessica Mason, Sara Neipert, Barbara Piper, Jack Piper, Lois Schmidt, Susan Schmidt, Andy Sharp, Pastor Charles Stark, Sarah Torluemke, Sandra Wernli, and Susan Garry, editor.

**Deadline for the next issue,
August 2023, is July 10.**

Liberty Neipert, Team Do Well in 4-H Competition

Liberty and her team.

Photos courtesy
Sara Neipert



Coupland's Liberty Neipert ranked ninth out of 33 teams in the Junior category in the 4-H Consumer Decision Making competition at the San Antonio Rodeo. Mom Sara says, "It was their first time out. Way to represent Williamson County 4-H and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension."

