

May 15th Festival and Fundraiser

We had hundreds of folks come together for a beautiful celebration and swearing in service. The Town of Poetry had its first set of official council and mayor sworn in by Judge Andy Bench. The day started off with a pancake breakfast and historical readings at the Campground Church. At the Poetry Tack & Ag, hayrides provided transport from the feedstore to the church. Ryder Grimes, Dock Ballard provided music as local cottage businesses sold their products under the Cedar Pavilion. The children enjoyed the petting zoo and rides. At 10 am, Veterans were honored for Armed Forces Day followed with music by Jennifer Emard. Veterans were provided a free barbeque meal at Poetry Tack & Ag.

Sales from the huge community flea market and pancakes as well as donations from lunch sales, train ride sales provided \$5161.75 to go to restore the church, aka the Poetry Town Hall. See videos at www.Poetrytexas.org



(Pictured left to right: Councilmembers Terry Fowler, Mike Jaffe, Tom Anderson, Mayor Tara Senkevech, Councilmembers Brian Vinson, Simeon White and District Judge Andy Bench.)

- **Program Speakers: Simeon White, Tara Senkevech, Amy-Cernoch Beam, Brian Vinson, Rose Ingram, Louis Cernoch, Evie Anderson, Pastor Moonoo, Pastor J.B. Bryant, Pastor Kevin Kelly, Frank Laywell, and Judge Andy Bench.**



(Above left: Ken Phillips and Shay Shimer burn tree debris at church grounds in preparation)



(Above right: Mikey Patterson enjoys phone set pretending to be police officer while at flea market)



(Above left: Kane Hansard drives hayride as flag waves high)
(Above right: Josh Senkevech provides train rides all morning.)



Big Thanks to the following people:

- Shay Shimer & Ken Phillips Brian & Sheri Vinson, Dave & Debbie Emard, Tom & Evie Anderson, Sophie Burchett, Judy Graham-purchased Flag, Kim & Kane Hansard, Dorothy Dillon, Shanna Irwin-Coury, Susan Ford, Kevin & Tara Senkevech, Tack & Ag Staff—gifted Bible to town, Simeon White, Lauren Johnson, Susan Ford, Frank & Barbara Rasor, Kevin Malone, Andres Vazquez, Theresa & Josh Scholander, Liz (Vicars) Patterson & Tanya Pollock, PUMC- donated sales.
- **Special thanks to Representative Lance Gooden for donating the Commemorative**

US. Flag which was flown from the US Capitol building! This will be kept in a shadow box in our new Town Hall!



(Massive # of items were donated for yard) sale!

- **Musicians:** Jennifer Emard, Dock Ballard and Ryder Grimes - amazing local talent!!
(See their pictures at poetrytx.org)
- Huge thanks to **Hickory Root BBQ**, Terrell, for preparing meat and banana pudding!
- **Businesses who contributed Raffle items:** Poetry Shooting Club, Salons Elite, Southern Junction, Sabrina's Flowers & Gifts, Living Life Skin Care, Cole Mountain, Flowerfield Florist, Sophia's Bakery, Burgers & Fries, Buttery, Sweetwater Grill, Matt's Rancho Martinez and Luigi's.

PUBLIC NOTICES: Do you love Poetry? **Voluntary Town Secretary NEEDED** who can work 10-20 hours per week. The position requires trustworthiness, organizational skills and willingness to learn proper procedures. Must be able to prepare agenda packets, type minutes and be present for all council meetings.

A workshop meeting dealing with solid waste vendors (trash service) will be on June 8th at 6:30 pm at Faith Temple Baptist. Six vendors will present information. This meeting will be video recorded.

THE FIRST OFFICIAL TOWN HALL MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY JUNE 15TH 6:30 pm. at Faith Temple Baptist Church. It

will be on video at poetrytx.org as well.

Some **Happenings** for the Town...

- 1) **The number one concern I hear is about our roads!** I agree! Did you know that large trucks are a major contributor to damaging our roads? We currently have over 5 different trash companies coming on various days of the week each stopping and starting numerous times. One truck can service 500 homes in a day. Therefore, I contacted six solid waste vendors to meet to provide competitive offers for service to our area which can be a lower cost for YOU and provide needed revenue for OUR town and mean fewer trucks! A win-win for Poetry!

- 2) Until we have a designated town attorney, we cannot negotiate roads to any significant degree with the counties. The town council probably needs to vote that person in at the first Town Hall meeting. The first time we could all get together was June 15th.



- 3) We have the town mailbox installed... service is coming soon! Paperwork submitted!

- 4) Sheetrock and three interior doors installed at Town Hall!
- 5) Completed Texas Open Meetings and Public Information Act Training.
- 6) Signed up for our FREE year with Texas Municipal League for our town and each of our councilmembers.
- 7) Discussed hours of information with attorneys for proper procedures.
- 8) Submitted paperwork for our Town Insurance-- out for underwriting process.
- 9) Requested land appraisal values from both Hunt and Kaufman Counties. Received preliminary values from Hunt County.
- 10) Assisted Oncor, FEC and Nextlink with items needed to process franchise fees.
- 11) Working on forms for Emergency Medical Services with potential appointments.

- 12) Initial discussions with Judges.
- 13) Researching/preparing items for first meeting agenda, setting up scheduling.
In service -- *Mayor Senkevech*