



CYPRESS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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THE COMMUNITY OF CYPRESS IS GOING TO BE OFFICIAL

Cypress has always been an "unincorporated area" in Harris County, we know it and love it, but it's easy for it to be overwhelmed by the City of Houston or get lost in the massiveness of Harris County. Precinct 3 County Commissioner Tom Ramsey would like to recognize Cypress as the important community that it is, in a formal way.

To that end, the Precinct convened an initial meeting of interested parties to begin to define The Community of Cypress. The vision begins with official county signage that recognizes the community, gives it a definition and branding, and borders.

The interested parties are the Historical Society, Chamber of Commerce, School District, Neighborhood Associations, Constable and Fire Departments, Women's Clubs, and more can be added as the community comes together to define itself.

First task, of course, is to determine the borders of Cypress - and that's where CHS comes in... to start with historical borders, and adjust from there as is practical. Where would the signs actually go? We need to have somewhere to start.

The next task will be to have an image/logo something to put on the signs that communicates what Cypress is about. Then maybe figure out local celebrities - now and in the past. Get some marketing materials together. I anticipate all sorts of discussion on that.

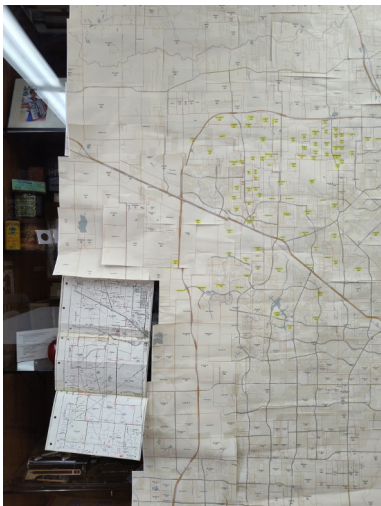
From there, the Chamber of Commerce recruits businesses to come to the Cypress community, neighborhoods lure homeowners, and your favorite Historical Society tells everyone our proud story.

Truly though, it's very exciting. I had actually been wanting more of a real definition for Cypress, a real identity that can be used for historical and modern benefit - connecting our residents to the area, being more than just "Northwest Houston". But I don't think any of us wanted a taxing district and politicians and all of that noise!

It's the very beginning of the process of recognizing our community, and we can make of it what we will, since it's nothing more than some road signs as far as the government is concerned. What we will do with it is up to us.



Imagine - like these signs for Klein, but promoting Cypress!



Mapping Cypress all the way back to the original land grants

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE MAPS

We are a location based Historical Society, maps are a part of our lives. Michelle and Denise have been doing yeoman's work to get all of the original land grants identified, copied, and mapped.

Printing all of this out and taping it together at the right cut lines - huge job. Additionally Michelle has used all of her expertise in researching government records to find the land grants and the documents. We truly do have amazing folks working with us.

Denise is also mapping all of the cemeteries in the area. Then we tie all of that back to the individuals in their family trees. It's all connected!

Sometime in 2026 we hope to get that all digitized and indexed properly, and ideally available online. The huge goal is to have this BIG map that you see currently taped to the front of the display case printed on huge format printer and able to maybe be pulled down like a projector screen.

PARK AND MUSEUM TOURS

We are pleased to continue to provide tours of the park, the buildings, and our museum and library to those who contact us either directly or through the community center. Michelle makes the best docent - she customizes each tour to the attendees.

Somehow she finds a way to teach each group the things they are interested in, to get them engaged and participating, and to communicate the importance of knowing our local history. We've had small family tours, homeschool student tours, special needs student tours, quick "driving past and was curious" tours. Each one customized for what that individual wanted to see.

We're fortunate that the park and its holdings are diverse enough that we can find something of interest for really anyone that stops by!

In August, the young daughter of Leslie Orozco read about our park online and told her mother that she wanted to come learn about "her town". That's EXACTLY how we want it to work! For her, being able to sit at a desk and imagine a school room of 100 years ago was "history coming alive".

And that means that we need to put far more work into our online presence, since that's where the action is these days. That's my main goal for 2026.

We're grateful to the Orozcos for their generous donation, which helps us be able to provide these tours and improve things around the park.

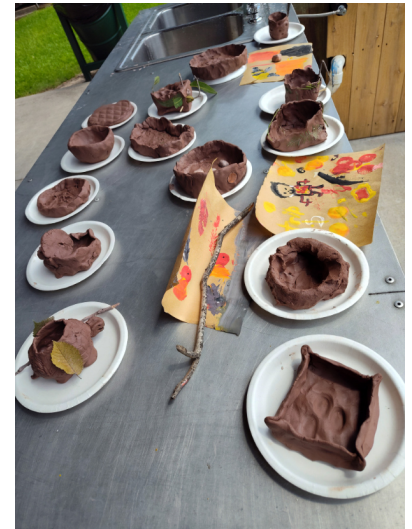


ARCHAEOLOGY FOR KIDS

In the blazing hot middle of July, Texas Historical Commission folks came to the park for a day to teach kids about archaeology. It was informative, fun, and thanks to the fans at the pavilion, not terribly unpleasant.

The kids were taught about the original occupants of the land, and how it's their garbage piles that teach us how they lived. Clay along the riverbanks was used to make bowls; seeds and bugs were turned into paint; leaves, stones and sticks were used to decorate.

Then the kids were given a blob of clay and historically accurate colors of paint, told to gather decorative items from the grounds of the park, and they made their own bowls. They pressed leaves into the sides to make designs. Sadly, the bowls had to dry and get painted later, so I was unable to see the final results, but it was really great to have a gaggle of kids learning and creating at the park.



RESEARCH PROJECT - BOTTLE IDENTIFICATION

As you might expect, a large portion of our artifacts are bottles. Beverages sold at the store, beverages sold (and eagerly consumed) at the bar, medicines and cosmetics sold in bottles, hair tonics, just so many bottles. Our detectorist friends will tell you that bottle collecting is a significant part of learning and being able to tell the story of our ancestors.

Gathering, cleaning, collating, sorting, and identifying is a huge undertaking and it has begun. The first part of the job that our busy crew has completed is sorting through everything at the store and reducing the quantities down to "one of each kind" that we will put on display.

We have a wide variety, and the ages span easily more than 50 years. Getting everything identified and catalogued will be the next step. That will be rather laborious - looking up each one, then getting distracted by the stories we will inevitably discover and become enchanted by

We have a collection displayed in the museum, another batch at the store, plenty at the barber shop, some over at the house, and a few up on the shelves in the hall. They are everywhere!



2025 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

Elena Trevino was awarded the Gene and Delphine Zaboroski Scholarship. Elena and her family were invited to join us at the DAR Spring Banquet where Michelle gave her the scholarship and everyone was able to congratulate her and meet the family that has supported her and will continue to do so as she heads off to college.



Elena worked with us at CHS throughout the summer last year, has a great love for history, a curious mind, and a kind heart. We know she'll find success whatever she does, she's an asset to the Cypress community.

2026 SCHOLARSHIP

It's time to reach out to the high school students you know and have them apply for the Gene and Delphine Zaboroski Scholarship.

We will provide **\$3,000** to a student interested in history, social sciences, library science, or education. Award will be based on academic merit and serving the mission of the historical society.

Applications will be due by **April 15, 2026**.

Details and application are available on our website or at the office.

CFISD DONATIONS RECEIVED

Cy-Fair School Corner at the Museum has received additional donations of late, really filling out our collection. Some of this memorabilia has been taken to various reunions, delighting the attendees.

Arnold Junior High has given us awards and honor photos from the late 1970s, scrapbooks from 1988 through 2001, and individual photos from the 8th grade class of 1965.

Stacie McKay donated a white rally towel from the 1985 football playoffs.

We're so appreciative of the donations, and invite everyone to come by and browse the collections.

A MAKEOVER FOR THE DELCO HOUSE

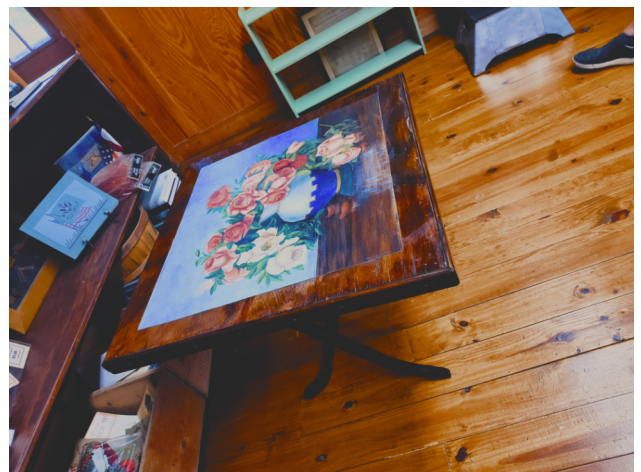
Whether you call the little one-room blue building the Delco House or Blondie's Apartment, it's quite possibly the cutest part of the park, and it's gotten quite the makeover this year already, with much more to come.

There is a new flower bed outside, with repurposed galvanized metal tubs Michelle found in the store. We have a Boy Scout project lined up to put fresh paint on the inside, Denise is making curtains, all of the contents will get spruced up, and some new artwork and memorabilia on the walls.

My absolute favorite thing however is the stunning card table. Richard worked long and hard on this, making it sturdy, refinishing it - and when the original top couldn't be saved, he put in the most beautiful painting, made by the park's own "local artist", Russel Hanks, in 1980.

Russell's art has recently been placed throughout the museum and there's always been a bit of it at Juergen's Hall. It's colorful and sentimental, echoes back to simpler times of quiet beauty and strength.

The floral on the table is actually a bit of a departure from his other work, which is mostly farm and ranch landscapes. But WOW does it look great on this table! Many thanks to Richard for making this an absolute standout.

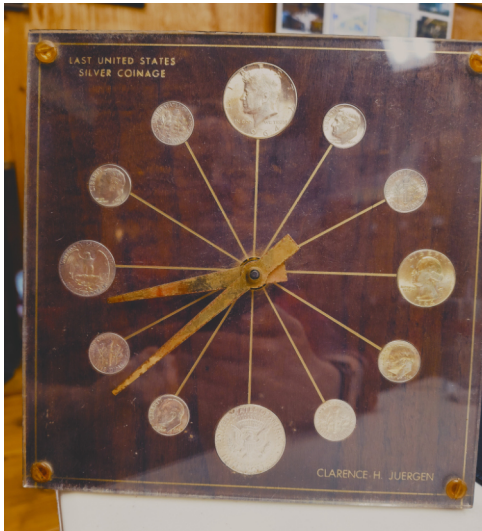


LOOK WHAT WE FOUND IN THE ATTIC!

Our dedicated team of workers at the store keep making the most fun discoveries. This cast iron train engine is well worn, rusted, paint missing, wheels missing - but it still takes us back to a time of toys with weight and value, that stirred the imagination of a child. The team is on the lookout for additional cars, the little wheels, any information about this train engine.

The numismatic clock is another bit of history. It's personalized for Clarence H. Juergen, was made in 1968 from the last of the 1964 real silver coins. It's in great shape and probably would work again if we put in a battery.

Hmmm, the penny is being retired this year, perhaps we should all get some commemorative coins and hide them away for future generations to discover!



Even more silver - a plain and lovely silver cross pendant, absolutely unknown whose it was or when it was purchased. A really interesting ring fashioned from the handle of a silver utensil - spoon or fork. Perhaps from a baby spoon?

The silver baby cup had enough markings on it to be identified more than the other silver objects, it's by Frank M. Whiting, and the pattern dates it to around 1910.

These items were found upstairs in the store / hotel / apartment, mixed in with other items. Were they items for sale? Were they precious family heirlooms? We don't know. And that's a bit sad.



THE STREETS OF CYPRESS ARE REMEMBERED

The park now has three of the old-style cement pillar street signs, freshly painted and marked. They are all subtly different, indicating a different era of manufacture and installation.

We are pretty sure that these were all installed prior to 1962, and we have a picture of one of them from 1942, but more detail than that we do not have.

Cypress-Rosehill at Grant is a square shape pillar, with a chamfered top. Huffmeister at Telge is a square shape pillar with a plain flat top. Grant at Kitzmann is a triangle shaped pillar with a chamfered top.

Several others have been located throughout the area, and will be retrieved and placed in the park as well. I'm proud to take credit for



finding the one that was Grant at Kitzmann. Driving around and looking at things you don't normally look at certainly pays off!



GOODBYE TO FROELICH'S HARDWARE



Long closed, it is soon to be torn down and will live on only in memory. The shop at 19331 FM 2920 has stood vacant since the 1990s, and folks still go to look at the brands burned into seemingly every surface available.

The county needs the land now, though, to widen FM 2920, and preparations are underway to let it all go.

Built in 1882, operated first as a blacksmith shop for folks to get wagons repaired, coffins built, and branding irons created. After 50 years, a hardware store was added. Another 65 years, multiple generations of Froelichs, and a focus on serving the community and keeping prices low made this place a beacon in the Rosehill area.

We are in contact with the family, and are trying to find homes for things that should be salvaged, and document the things that can't.

MEMORIAL BENCH FOR JOCELYN NUNGARAY



On Sept 23, Crime Stoppers and Precinct 3 dedicated a Park Bench and Tree to the memory of Jocelyn Nungaray, young Harris County murder victim. Precinct 3 has been installing these benches at their parks as part of a "We Remember Memorial" project. Cypress Top was chosen to memorialize Jocelyn as her family lives nearby and would be able to come visit and enjoy the peace and quiet.

The ceremony was well attended, Commissioner Ramsey spoke of the need for community in times of tragedy and the hope for Jocelyn's family and all touched by tragedy to find peace. The representative from Crime Stoppers spoke of the sad but important work his organization does to find justice and provide support and comfort for the families of crime victims.

NEWSLETTERS VIA EMAIL

Member option: receive future newsletters in your Inbox rather than your Mailbox.

- Doesn't take up space at your house
- Zoom in to read larger print
- Saves us money on printing and mailing

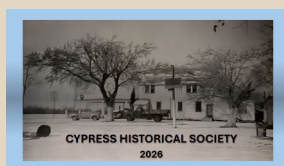
Let us know:
info@cypresshistoricalsociety.com
281-758-0083

2026 CALENDAR

The calendar for 2026 is now available. This will be the last CHS calendar, we'll have new and different fundraising items in the new year!

This calendar has never-before published photos of our beloved Cypress area and Cypress Family, including Rosehill, Tomball, Hempstead, Waller, the Juergens and Kluge families, Schools and Trail Rides.

The calendar is available for \$20.



THANKS TO OUR BENEFACTORS (JUN-NOV)

General Fund

John & Virginia Alamanza
Shirley Chambers
Leslie Orozco

Scholarship Fund

Nancy Andrews

Cypress Historical Society

Our mission is to discover, educate, promote, collect, preserve and make available to the public, historical documents and artifacts of the Cypress area.

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Office Hours
TUESDAY 9am-4pm
THURSDAY 9am-Noon
FRIDAY 9am-Noon

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Board Meetings
Noon, first Thursday of the month
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Your ideas and stories are most welcome!

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CYPRESS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

cypresshistoricalsociety.com



WHO WE ARE

The Cypress Historical Society (CHS) is a 501(c)(3) corporation, founded in March 2008.

Our mission is to make the rich, colorful history of the Cypress area known to the current residents of Cypress and the public in general.

WHAT WE DO

We preserve local artifacts, conduct genealogical research of the settling families, assist the public with their own family history research, offer history presentations, assist Harris County with tours of Cypress Top Historic Park, and more.

MEMBERSHIP

\$20/yr Individual

\$35/yr Family