



Hello Poetry,

My name is Jonathan Blake and I am running for Poetry Town Council.

I was born in Beaumont, raised in Garland and moved to Poetry in the early 1980s along with my parents, two sisters and their families, aunt and uncle, and cousins. I have been married 31 years to my wife, Quatona, and we have 3 adult children who all graduated from Poetry Community Christian School. During their school years, Quatona and I were able to serve at Poetry school with the added benefit of making lifelong friends.

My professional career started as an apprentice at Collinsworth Car Care in Garland while in High School. After graduating, I spent a brief time in Houston as a foreman for a licensed irrigator. Upon returning to Poetry, I spent two years helping my dad and cousin build an earth shelter house for their permanent residence next door. Once the house was completed, I went back to Collinsworth Car Care where I honed my skills as an auto mechanic. In 1985 I joined one of the Collinsworth sons in opening a new shop, Collinsworth Auto Repair, in Downtown Garland. After 5 years, I expanded my work experience to Kerry's Etc who was a glass decorator. Here I helped revise the workflow efficiency and developed decal printing. I continued my efficiency skills and production processes at a company in Olive Branch, Mississippi before returning to Collinsworth Auto Repair in 1994 which I subsequently purchased and have continued to operate since 1999.

I never thought I'd be a candidate for public office, but through prayerful consideration here I am. I have a desire to keep Poetry's local government small and maintain the way of life I've enjoyed here for 39 years. My campaign philosophy is: I am not running against my fellow candidates; I am running FOR the Town of Poetry. I will try to represent everyone's views to the best of my abilities and work with other council members and Mayor in moving the Town of Poetry forward.

I appreciate your support and vote.