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Issue 1131



The Island Moon

The voice of The Island since 1996

December 18, 2025

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The Buccaneer in the La Posada Parade



Around The Island

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Island Moon Live

By Dale Rankin

The La Posada Lighted Boat Parades were the big news Around The Island this week as the headquarters for the Friday night parade moved to Doc's Seafood & Steaks to great reviews as hundreds gathered for one of those *only on The Island* events that come around from time to time. The extending of the Friday night parade route to include the area near the JFK Bridge has turned out to be a big success and has made the parade on the two nights very different. The Friday parade navigates only a couple of canals on the north end of The Island and the kickoff at the JFK Bridge allows a place for parade watchers to gather while the Saturday parade moves through numerous wide canals with long stretches of quiet between houses.

A cruise along the parade route Saturday night drove home a couple of points. The first is how many second homes sit empty Around The Island. As we cruised for several hours Saturday night we passed blocks of darkened homes with absentee owners and shuttered windows. The second thing we noticed is how many Island homes are decorated on the water side, many quite elaborate and even some of the empty homes had decorations up in anticipation of a Christmas visit by the owners. If our calm weather continues through the week take the opportunity to make a cruise Around The Island and take in the waterside decorations, you will be glad you did as it is also an *only on The Island* experience.

In the news

The big news Around The Island this week is the letting of a contract to build a new beach access road just south of the city limits on Mustang Island. This is a much-needed addition that has been thirty years in the planning and is now set to get under construction. It will make seven miles of gulf beaches much more user friendly and provide some elbow room on the twenty six miles of local beaches that jam up on busy weekends. We thank the Island Strategic Action Committee and

Around cont. on A4

Texas Population Boom is leaving Coastal Bend behind

Coastal Bend population is growing slowly and aging quickly

By Dale Rankin

A population boom across Texas which saw the state's population increase by 2 million in the years between 2020-2024 largely bypassed the Coastal Bend which saw an increase of only 1463, according to figures released this week by Dr. Lloyd Potter at the Texas Demographic Center at the University of Texas San Antonio.

In a state where 22 Texas counties grew by 24% in the past five years beginning in 2019 Nueces County grew by only 1.9% with 6764 new citizens making Nueces County only one of 52 Texas counties out of 254 that grew by an average of only 1.1% per year between 2010 and 2020. The numbers show that between the years 2010-2024 the Corpus Christi Metropolitan Area

grew at the slowest rate of the eight most populous cities in the state falling behind Killeen-Temple in 2025.

The U.S. Census in 2020 showed Texas with 29.2 million population with an increase to 31.2 million in 2024, the largest increase of any state just head of Florida

Population cont. on page A3

By the numbers

Population in the Coastal Bend

Nueces County population 2020-2025

353,178 2020
351,802 2021
350,948 2022
355,172 2023
358,352 2024
359,942 2025
6764 (1.9%) increase 2020-2025

Corpus Christi Metropolitan Area

(Including surrounding cities and counties)

446,387 2020
447,850 2021
447,850 2022
448,766 2023
450,187 2024
317,862 2020
317,841 2019

Numbers cont. on page A3

A new Beach Access Road for The Island

Will make seven miles of gulf beaches easily accessible

By Dale Rankin

Currently the lack of access roads for several miles on either side of the Port Aransas-Corpus Christi City Limits has left seven miles of gulf beaches relatively empty even as the number of beachgoers across The Island increased dramatically.

But that changed this week as the Corpus Christi City Council unanimously approved construc-



New Access Road Location

tion of Beach Access Road 3 just south of the city limits divide. The new \$1.6 million access road is designed to drastically ease accessibility of about six miles of beach running north from Fish Pass where currently beachgoers must drive more than seven miles south from the nearest beach access point. Even during peak use periods that stretch of beach has been left sparsely attended.

Access cont. on page A3

La Posada Winners



Best in Show Mike Hettic "Dream Weaver", and 2nd Place Power, under 29' Beau Culvahouse "Kaylani"



A little Island history

Nueces County is Born Amid Lead and Gunpowder

Freebooters, adventurers, and ranchers

Editor's note: We feature population numbers and projects for Nueces County in this issue so as we look forward we also look back at how Nueces County came to be.

By Dale Rankin

On April 18, 1846 Nueces County was born. It was on that date that the legislature carved the county out of San Patricio County (a story for another day). Corpus



Corpus Christi in 1887

Christi was named the county seat and incorporated that same year (unconfirmed reports say that the debate over whether to tear down Memorial Coliseum began that afternoon but we're not sure about that). The county was organized (insert punch line here) on January 11, 1847 (again unconfirmed reports say a money-losing baseball field was built

History cont. on A6

All sorts of pirate swag is supposedly hidden in the Coastal Bend area

The Island is littered with treasures lost and buried

Moon Mike left us with a treasure of a different sort in his collection of Island history books. One of them is a 1972 book, "A Guide to Treasures in Texas," by author Thomas Penfield who unearthed hundreds of buried-treasure stories, legends dealing with sunken treasures, stolen payrolls and life savings buried by their owners. Some of the might even be true. When the legend becomes fact, print the legend.

Treasure cont. on page A7

La Posada Parade Watch Party at Doc's and the Waterline

The watch party for the Friday night La Posada parade was moved to Doc's this year and organizers say it was better than ever giving judges a crystal clear view of all of the boats. The setup was ideal for the parade watchers and the boat captain's navigating the ICW during the parade. Photos By Debbie Noble



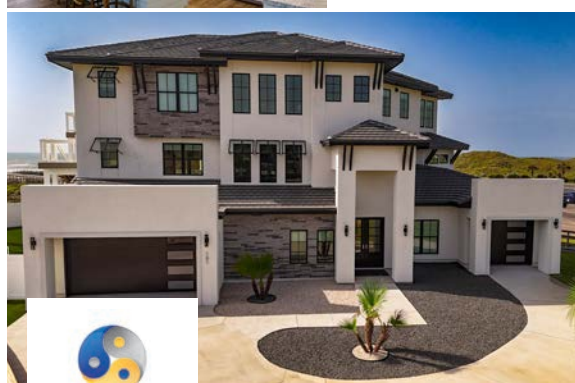
The KRIS news team at Doc's



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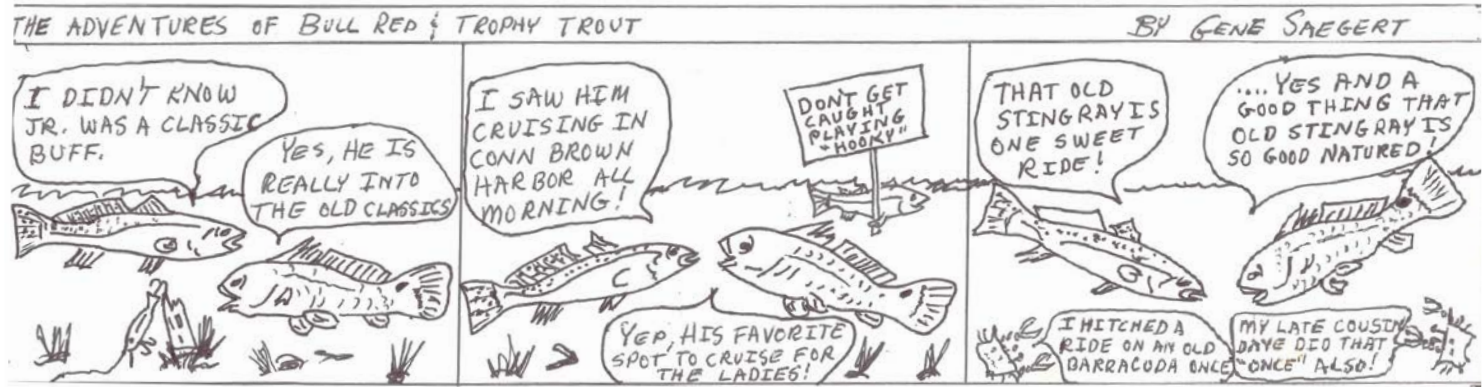
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Access cont. from A1

Funding for the new road is from Street Bonds, Storm Water, and Water Funds, according to city documents presented to the council this week, with construction by Mako Contracting of Corpus Christi and will be 1600-feet long and consist of concrete pavement. Work is scheduled to begin in early 2026 and be complete by September 2026.



July 4, 2014. The new access road is designed to make this section of beach more accessible to the public. This shot was taken on the July 4 weekend of 2014. As beaches to the north and south were packed with beachgoers the section of beach where the new access road is to be built was sparsely populated because drivers had to drive six miles down and back to get there. The new road will provide a way to enter and exit the beach without having to reverse course.



Newly completed access road south of Cinnamon Shores



The Buccaneer in the La Posada Parade

Numbers cont. from A1

318,620 2018
318,773 2017
319,952 2016
319,757 2015
316,777 2014
313,986 2013
310,264 2012
306,912 2011
305,019 2010

Population cont. from A1

and California where the respective growth was less than half that of Texas, followed by North Carolina. The number of new Texas residents, mostly from other parts of the United States rose from 906 per day in 2020-2021 to 1542 per day in 2023-2024.

During that same time the Corpus Christi Metropolitan Area grew at a rate of four people per day in 2020 but by 2024 that number had dropped to 3.8 people per day, a negative growth rate in a state with the highest statewide growth rate in the nation during that time. The state added roughly 563,000 people in just the 2023-2024 year alone, leading the nation in overall growth and domestic migration while the population of the Coastal Bend increased by only 1421 during that same time period.

The numbers from the Texas Demographic Center show that while the population of the Corpus Christi Metropolitan Area continued to grow at a slow rate from 2020-2024 the population was aging with the biggest demographic increase in the age group from 65 and up which increased by 6893 while the age group from 18-24 years of age grew by only 223 citizens and the number of people over 85 years old grew by 670 raising the median age by just under 1% in five years from 2019-2024. In the period from 2000 to 2025 the Corpus Christi Median Market, a matrix of population and income,

Demographics

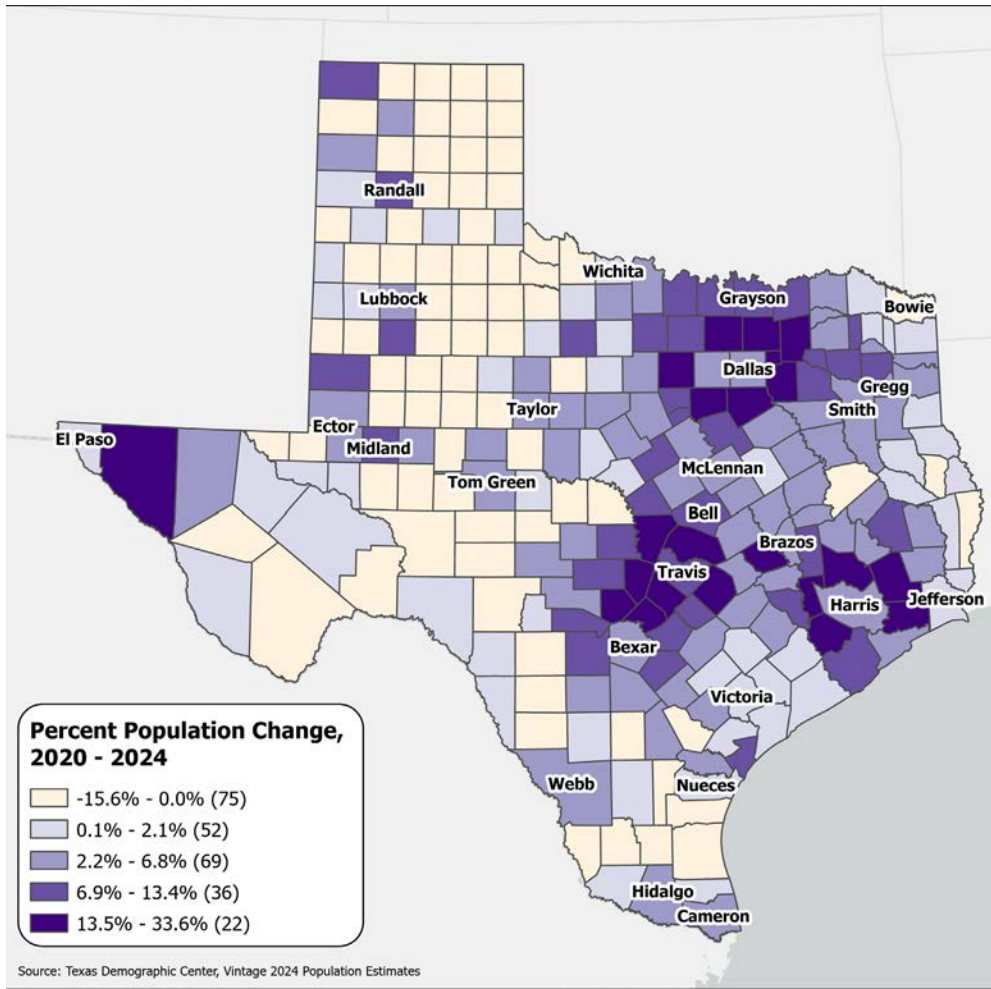
65 years and over 2020-2024 71,355 to 78,248
18-24 years old 2020-2024 20,533-20,756
Median age male 36 years (rose .8)
Median age female 38 years (rose .9)
85 years plus 2020-2024 4664-5334 (rose by 670)
80-84 8038-9379 (rose by 1341) 2020-2024
Under 5 years 27,979-26,467 (dropped by 1512)

dropped on spot from the 129 market to 130 falling behind La Crosse-Eau Claire.

The majority of the growth across the state from 2020-2024 was in the Texas Triangle from Houston to Travis County to the Metroplex area around Dallas-Fort Worth. But in the cities themselves the numbers show that growth slowed in the counties of Bexar (San Antonio), Harris (Houston) Tarrant (Fort Worth) and Dallas but the highest growth in the state was in the counties immediately around Houston, the Metroplex, and between San Antonio and Austin as growth moved from the inner cities to the surrounding areas.

While the counties in the Lower Rio Grande Valley grew substantially from 2020-2024 the six counties immediately south of Nueces County and north of the lower Rio Grande Valley decreased in population by an average of 7.8% with some dropping as much as 15%, according to the Texas Demographic Center. Hispanics have made up the majority of Texans since 2023 by .2% - 39.8 Hispanic to 39.6% Anglo.

Growth projections 2020-2060 project Nueces County to grow between 1000-50,000 total by 2060 at an average of 5% per year. The 45-80 year old demographic is expected to show the largest increase. The numbers released this show that if present population trends continue by 2060 Corpus Christi will likely fall out of the top ten Metropolitan Statistical Areas in Texas even as its population ages and its growth continues to lag.



Texas population changes 2020 - 2024

Moon Monkeys

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Stuff I Heard on the Island



By Dale Rankin

We got a surprise at the Moon office Tuesday morning when a tabby cat took up residence under our building on Compass Street. She was barely past being a kitten and was friendly but wary until, as always happens with cats, curiosity got the better of her and she started acting like she wanted to come into the office but was afraid of the little wooden man that stands by the front door who she thought was real.

It wasn't the first time a cat has moved into the crawl space under our building, in fact the last cat who appeared there now sleeps in the bed with us at home after we fed him for months under the building until Snowvid hit and we trapped him and turned him into a housecat.

But the arrival of our new friend reminded me of the network of Islanders who look out for strays that often find their way to our Island, all too often by humans who dump them here because they know Islanders will take care of them. Within a few minutes of posting about the cat's arrival in hopes of finding the owner a steady stream of Islanders turned up to help. One with a chip reader to see if the cat could be identified. As I learned many cheap chip readers will only read certain types of chips so even a negative result might be overcome with a better reader and so an Islander brought one in.

Another came to see if it was her lost cat, while another caught the cat and took her to the vet to get her seen to as she looked to be about ready to go into heat and provide us with a litter of kittens. There was no luck there so we began calling around to the various cat rescue operations – The Catery, and the PAAC group People Assisting Animal Control – who made time for us to bring the stray in for spaying the very next day. Then others called to say they would foster our new friend while we looked to find her a new home. In the meantime we had let her go because we didn't want to leave her in a cage while we worked to get her in to see a vet and now she is once burned and twice shy and won't come near humans but instead just sneaks onto the porch to eat the food we leave her.

A network of Islanders

But the incident reminded me of all of the Islanders out there who day in and day out work to rescue the dogs and cats that roam The Island. For years the south end of The Island has been the dumping ground for thoughtless people who dump unwanted animals and over the years Islanders have organized to help them find homes. Many of them came together when we opened the Riley P. Dog Park and it became a meeting place for dog lovers. As it turns out dogs parks aren't really dog parks as much as dog owner parks. If you have ever looked into the eyes of an adult dog who has had its collar removed and been dumped on the street and is lost and scared and want to help you are not alone here, there is an extended family of Islanders who answer that call every day.

The Island can be a tough place for stray dogs and cats alike, especially for cats who often fall prey to roaming coyotes and if you have ever heard the noise when they catch one you can't unhear it. We lost a cat to coyotes in a vacant lot right across the street from our house on Cartagena and almost lost another when an owl swooped

down and tried to fly off with it on Fortuna Bay. I heard a commotion in the back yard and when I ran out there Jan yelled, "An owl flew off with the cat!" which raises the question; what do you do when an owl flies off with your cat? My solution was to drive around the neighborhood looking up in the sky until I realized that a) it was dark and I couldn't see an owl flying around with our cat and b) what was I going to do if I saw the owl? "Hey owl drop that cat!" By the time I returned home the cat had been located under the deck with three distinct claw marks on her back and she ran upstairs and hid in the back of a closet where she stayed for a week and wouldn't come out and who could blame her. The next day we went outside and found the owl water soaked and clinging to the bulkhead and resisted the urge to punish him for trying to fly off with our cat and instead called Guy the Owl Wrangler to come and get him. If you listen at night you can hear owls calling all over The Island just waiting for the chance to fly off with a cat.

A fingertip respite

We have had the cat that we found under the building for several years now and he roams freely at night so far safe because we live on a fingertip street where coyotes so far have feared to tread and at this point he has fattened up enough that it would take a condor owl to fly off with him. If there is a bird big enough to carry off that cat it would take a guided missile to bring him down.

All of this is a way to say that if you are an animal lover you are not alone here on our Island and the folks who work to help strays are always looking for new homes for animals both permanent and foster. In our case we are mostly failed foster parents who took in Lizzy the dog as she was on death row in Aransas County with the intention of finding her a home, which we did...ours. If you would like to get involved in helping Island animals go to our Facebook page theislandmoonnewspaper and the Island animal rescue network will reach out to you – think of yourself as a stray without a collar looking for a place to go for help...or something like that. As for the stray cat that now resides under our office, she will come back around because it is always curiosity that gets the better of cats. Sooner or later we will trap her and get her to a vet and then Islanders will turn up to help us find her a home. That's what Islanders do.



Parker the cat

Around cont. from A1

the Corpus Christi City Council for making this project happen.

Commissions and Committees

For the first time in a decade there is now no Islander on the Corpus Christi Port Commission. The main interest of Islanders with regards to the port is development on Harbor Island which at the moment is not really on the agenda but with the exit of Islanders Charlie Zahn and Bryan Gulley the commission is now made up of folks from OTB.

Closer to home we had an error of omission last week while listing previous Chairs of the Island Strategic Action Committee and left out our own Jay Gardner who served two very successful terms in that role. All we can say is we apologize and the good news is we get a chance to get it right the next week. There are currently some vacancies on ISAC and appointments usually are done in January so if you are interested in serving on this crucial Island organization now is the time to apply.

Skatepark

There was some confusion at the PIPOA board meeting this week regarding the location and funding of the skatepark planned for Billish Park. The funding is in place after a vote by the Board of the Island Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone #2 two months ago. The money is being redirected from the paving of Paper Street which was funded for the 2025-2026 fiscal year but has been delayed due to permitting issues. So the money is there awaiting design and

engineering which is still in progress but the early word from planners two months back is that the skatepark will be located on the north end of Billish Park away from houses. The design of the park is still a work in progress but will be friendly to beginners and experienced skateboarders alike. We will have an update here after the next ISAC meeting in January.

Help the fireworks!

Funding for the Island Blast Fourth of July Fireworks Show is at a crucial point as the end of the year approaches and the first installment of the payment for the show is due. Nick Colosi says the fund is about \$4000 short of the money needed to lock down the date with the fireworks crew so if you can help out now is the time to step up. Donations by check made out to Island Blast, Inc. can be sent to or brought by the POA office 14015 Fortuna Bay Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78418. The POA does not sponsor the Blast but is a mail drop. Or you can donate at "GoFundMe" by scrolling to Island Blast. Island Blast is a 501c3 corporation so your donation can be listed on your taxes. For any questions call Nick 618-889-9160. Every dollar counts!

Let's put some fire in the sky on the Fourth of July and in the meantime take a canal cruise and checkout the Christmas lights from the water, and say hello if you see us Around The Island.

La Posada 2025 Winners

1st Place Power, under 29'



Kacy Moody
12
The Skeptic

1st Place Sailboat



Matthew Allen
10
Seven C's

2nd Place Power, 30' & Over



Robert Elizondo
1
Texas Gambler

2nd Place Power, under 29'



Beau Culvahouse
15
Kaylani

Best in Show



Mike Hettick
4
Dream Weaver

Children's Choice Award



Allen Schultz
#8
Just Joan II

Commander's Cup



Mike Homan
11
Red, White & Blue



Thank you to all our Collector Boats!

Nature Notes

A Leap Too Far

By Kayla Pringle



African Clawed Frogs. Wiki commons public domain:

For decades, the African clawed frog (*Xenopus laevis*) played a surprising and essential role in human medicine. Native to the still waters of southern Africa, these smooth-skinned, flat-bodied amphibians became one of the most widely used laboratory animals of the 20th century. By the 1930s, they were a common sight in research facilities around the world. You might assume scientists were drawn to some unusual biological trait, but their importance came from something entirely unexpected: their ability to detect pregnancy in humans.

In 1930, British scientist Lancelot Hogben discovered that female African clawed frogs would lay eggs when exposed to human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG), the hormone produced early in pregnancy. This simple reaction became one of the first rapid, reliable pregnancy tests. It was considered a major scientific breakthrough. As demand for pregnancy testing grew, so did the global trade in African clawed frogs.

Thousands of frogs were shipped each year to laboratories and clinics across Europe, North America, Asia, and Australia. The frogs were very adaptable—easy to care for in captivity and able to survive if accidentally released. For decades, they became a familiar symbol of early reproductive science. But beneath this success story, serious ecological consequences were beginning to unfold.

African clawed frogs are natural carriers of *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*—the chytrid fungus responsible for chytridiomycosis, a disease now known to be devastating for amphibians. While *Xenopus* can carry the fungus without becoming sick, amphibian species in other parts of the world lack this immunity. As the frogs traveled across continents, they unknowingly transported the pathogen with them. Escaped lab animals, intentional releases, and contaminated water all helped introduce the fungus into new ecosystems.

By the late 20th century, amphibians world-wide began experiencing mysterious, rapid declines. Entire populations vanished from mountain streams and rainforest floors. Scientists eventually pinpointed chytridiomycosis as the cause—an infection that disrupts the way amphibian skin functions, often leading to cardiac arrest. Today, the chytrid fungus is linked to declines in more than 500 species and to the extinction or near-extinction of dozens, making it one of the worst disease-driven biodiversity crises in recorded history.

African clawed frogs weren’t the sole cause of this outbreak; global amphibian trade, climate change, and habitat loss all exacerbated the problem even more. But their use in early pregnancy testing undeniably helped launch the worldwide spread of the fungus. Ironically, a species that contributed significantly to human health also helped trigger a global wildlife health disaster.

Modern pregnancy tests no longer rely on animals, and any remaining *Xenopus* colonies in laboratories are kept under strict biosecurity measures. Still, their legacy lingers—in invasive populations on several continents and in the ongoing effort to protect the world’s amphibians from chytridiomycosis.

Although the story of the African clawed frog highlights a remarkable chapter in scientific progress, it also underscores how even well-intentioned research can lead to unforeseen ecological consequences. Scientific innovation must be paired with careful oversight, strict containment, ethics, and an understanding of how organisms move through—and interact with—the world beyond the lab. As science continues to push boundaries, safeguarding ecosystems must remain a priority, ensuring that the pursuit of knowledge does not unintentionally place wild species at risk.

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Beachcombing Report

By Jace Tunnell



Purple Storm Snails



Jace Tunnell holding a purple storm snail

This past week’s strandline delivered a spectacular mix of open-ocean drifters, Man o’ Wars, blue buttons, by-the-wind sailors, and — tucked among them — one of my favorite finds: the purple storm snail, *Janthina janthina*. These delicate snails are rarely seen unless strong onshore winds push the offshore world right up to our toes, and each one that washes ashore carries a story of remarkable survival at the ocean’s surface.

Purple storm snails spend their entire lives floating upside down, held aloft by a hand-made raft of bubbles. Using mucus and air, they construct a frothy flotation device that keeps their lightweight, paper-thin shells at the surface, an engineering feat as fragile as it is essential. If the snail loses this bubble raft at any point in its life, it sinks to the seafloor and dies, unable to make its way back up.

Living at the top of the sea comes with predators above and below, and the snail’s shell coloration reflects that reality. What we see as a beautiful gradient of purples is actually a form of countershading. The deep purple underside faces up toward the sky, helping the snail blend into the surface when viewed from above, while the lighter lavender top mimics the bright water when predators look up from below. Pick one up and you may get a surprise, these snails can release a purple ink when disturbed, another defense in their delicate arsenal.

Their lifestyle is just as unusual as their color. The snail feeds on other surface drifters, including Man o’ Wars and blue buttons, drifting along from meal to meal in the mid-ocean gyres. Even their reproduction has a twist: all storm snails begin life as males and transition to females later, ensuring the next generation continues life on the raft. Keep your eyes open; you never know what the next tide will bring. Jace Tunnell is the Director of Community Engagement for the Harte Research Institute at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. His Beachcombing series appears on YouTube and you can follow Jace at harterresearch.org, or Facebook (facebook.com/harterresearch), Instagram ([@harterresearch](https://instagram.com/harterresearch)) and X ([@HarteResearch](https://twitter.com/HarteResearch)) (the platform formerly known as Twitter).



Man o’ war with purple storm snail attached



Purple storm snail with bubble raft

The Art of Island Life

History cont. from A1



By Melissa Mitchell

When Art Becomes a Family Story

Some artists arrive at their style knowing exactly where they’re headed. Others discover it layer by layer—following curiosity, saying yes to new ideas, and letting the work evolve naturally. Vanessa Spittler’s journey has very much been the latter.

Vanessa’s professional art journey began right here on the Island. In 2020, she started showing her work at Padre Island Art Gallery, stepping into the art world during a time when many were rethinking direction and rediscovering creativity. What began as an exploration—learning, experimenting, saying yes to possibility—quickly turned into momentum, opening the door to what came next.

In just five short years, Vanessa has built a beautiful new career in art. Her work has grown not only in technique, but in confidence and range—expanding from fluid pours to layered paintings, surfboard collaborations, and now into deeply personal, family-driven projects.



Vanessa Spittler

coastal-inspired painting and surfboard carving as well. What began as individual creative paths has grown into a shared family passion—built on encouragement, experimentation, and learning together.

For the Spittler family, art isn’t just something that hangs on a wall—it’s something that brings them together. Vanessa hopes to be a positive influence for her daughters, showing them that with determination, curiosity, and heart, anything is possible.

It has truly been my pleasure to watch Vanessa grow—and one of the greatest rewards of what I do. Seeing that growth turn into a shared family story makes it even sweeter. Vanessa’s work continues to evolve, and I have no doubt the best chapters are still ahead.

If you’re on the Island, pop into Evoke Studio & Gifts to see Kayci’s carved surfboard, some of Vanessa’s latest gyotaku prints, and a particularly special piece—a relief print of ink on canvas taken from one of Chris’s carved boards. Together, the work reflects a creative journey shaped by collaboration, curiosity, and family. I’m proud to now represent this talented family and their work in my gallery.

The Art of Island Life will return next week with more coastal stories and community inspiration. Have a holiday tradition or memory you’d like to share? I’d love to hear from you at contact@melissamitchellart.com



Carved Surfboard by Chris Spittler



Beyond the Pour—Learning the Art of Gyotaku



Vanessa’s Gyotaku Speckled Trout

Vanessa didn’t stop at pouring paint. As her confidence grew, she began painting on top of her pour art—adding detail and intention to those expressive backgrounds. That natural evolution eventually carried her work onto surfboards, including early board pieces created on those of the late surfer and artist John Olvey—work that holds special meaning for many on the Island. This opened the door to even more creative collaborations.

Some of those collaborations include Catherine McNew’s turtles layered onto Vanessa’s pours, and surfboard pieces where Vanessa created the poured backgrounds and Dinah Bowman applied her gyotaku fish prints on top. Each collaboration brought something new while still honoring the original foundation. The result is work that feels both collaborative and cohesive, with every piece telling more than one story.

It was through her collaborative process that Vanessa became interested in gyotaku—the traditional Japanese art of fish printing. I spoke briefly with Dinah, who shared some insight into the technique and mentioned how much she’s enjoyed working with Vanessa. That experience opened the door for Vanessa to explore the ancient process herself, eventually making it her own.

Around the same time she was learning the process, Vanessa found a deeply personal reason to continue working in gyotaku. Her husband, Chris, a lifelong fisherman, returned home one day with a trophy-size catch and asked Vanessa to document it in a meaningful way. While the technique wasn’t easy at first, Vanessa fell in love with the process. Using rice paper, ink, and paint, she began capturing not just the fish, but the memory of the moment it was caught.

Creativity Runs in the Family

Vanessa’s husband, Chris, who works in the oil filter industry, also carries a creative spark of his own. During downtime, he began sketching ideas that eventually found their way onto surfboards. In carving those boards, he discovered a medium that continues to inspire him.

Vanessa paints the carved boards, transforming them into striking, one-of-a-kind pieces that feel both sculptural and alive.

Their daughter, Kayci, who studied art in college and has surfed on the Island since childhood, naturally gravitated toward

in Robstown about that same time).
Freebooters, adventurers, and ranchers
Nueces County had long been the hangout for freebooters, adventurers, and ranchers since first sighted in 1519 by Alvarez de Pineda who gave it its name – Body of Christ. The first reliable information about the townsite and the bay came from Joaquin de Orobio y Basterna who was attached to the Mission Espiritu Santo which headed an expedition into the area in 1689 and who first noted the sand reef that separated Nueces and Corpus Christi bays. The Indians had earlier shown Cabeza de Vaca across the reef in 1532 and which in his writings he called the “great river” which the Indians called the River of Nuts but there is debate among historians whether it was in fact the Nueces or the Guadalupe river.

The first to mention The Island is his report was Colonel Diego Ortiz Parrilla who was sent to explore the barrier islands along the lower coast in 1766, but it was not until 1876 that progress was made in establishing Rancho Santa Petronila about five leagues from the mouth of the Nueces. To see where this site is today look west from SPID at the 1000-foot television broadcast towers located there.

Prior to that era ranchers had followed herds as they moved north from the Rio Grande and in 1800 the Spanish government formalized this movement by issuing land grants to cattlemen that reached up to the Nueces River. These were largely political awards that went to absentee owners who likely never visited the area. Relics of corals and cattle pens have been uncovered at the Herrera and Montemayor ranches northwest of Corpus Christ, and a trap for mustangs appears on a map of the Herrera land grant southeast of present day Calallen. The landowners hired their own private armies to fight off Indians and their headquarters looked more like forts than homes; one of these was called Casa Blanca and was located in the same area. Trapping the wild mustangs of what was called the Wild Horse Desert was a good source of income.

Once Mexico achieved independence from Spain in 1821 more focus was placed on the area around Corpus Christi Bay. Soon the empresarios like Steven F. Austin began securing land grants, and in this area the grants to John McMullen and James McGloin were the first signs of what was to come. Many of the names of current day towns and counties in South Texas originated from the holders of these grants – the San Patricio Colony, and the Refugio Colony, among others. The first recorded business transaction was recorded in 1829 when John Linn bought a load of tobacco that had been delivered to Corpus Christi Bay by a Captain Pierce. Linn eventually settled the town of Linville near Victoria which was wiped out by the Indian raid. Then during the Texas Revolution the area around Nueces Bay became a smuggling route as the factions in Mexico battled for supremacy. Many of the men later credited with the settlement of the area began or enhanced their fortunes in this manner during the war.

Kinney arrives

Eventually, Colonel Henry L. Kinney established a trading post on the bay in 1839 and hired forty guns for his own private army. In 1845 he received authorization from the Republic legislature to “raise and organize one company o men with one captain and one lieutenant for the purpose of protecting the settlements at Corpus Christi and vicinity.”
But Kinney’s choice of locations soon brought attention of the legal owner of the land, Captain Enrique Villareal who brought 300 men with him. All but Kinney and eight men fled but Kinney convinced the Mexicans he had secret bombs rigged around the place and was able to negotiate a buy for ten leagues of Villereal’s land for \$3000 and \$1000 for merchandise which was used to found the Rincon del Oso Ranch. It became Kinney’s Trading Post and became the center of cadre of groups

who operated on the fringes of the law rounding up cattle and horses with little care for their brands and trading them into Mexico. Texas President Mirabeau B. Lamar looked the other way and Kinney became a local power as evidenced by an incident in 1841. Philip Dimmitt and James Gourley had established a trading post near present day Calallen to get in on the Mexico trade. Their post was stocked with \$6000 worth of merchandise and they were about to launch a cattle roundup when a squadron of Mexican cavalry rode in off the plains. The post was plundered and Dimmitt and three other leaders were hauled off to Mexico. Kinney’s post, however, just a few miles away, was untouched and suspicion was settled upon Kinney’s head for the calling in of the Mexican military. This was at a time before the U.S.-Mexican War when the land between the Nueces and the Rio Grande was claimed by both Texas and Mexico. President Lamar backed up Kinney and asked Kinney to go to Mexico to smooth out the problem at the jail in Hacienda de Agua Nuevo, near Monterrey where Dimmitt was being held. Dimmitt took his own life with an overdose of morphine and Kinney’s reputation as a man who operated on the fringes was secured.

Plundering Gringos

Then a gang of about thirty gringos under John H. Yerby plundered Mexican traders in the area to the point that General Pedro de Amudia, commander of Mexican forces at Matamoros sent a force of 200 men to investigate. They surprised a group of Yerby’s men in the area west of what is now Calallen and killed all but one. The area west of Corpus Christi Bay remained a no-man’s land and Mexican soldiers and bandits vied with swashbucklers from the Texas side for plunder.
A man named Coleman McCampbell described it this way. “It (Corpus Christi) is a one-man city. Kinney is the leading citizen and promoter; he has a government of his own. He is alternately friend and foe of Mexicans, Texans, and Indians. Sometimes he defies them, using force; sometimes he bribes and wheedles them. The bulk of his trade is in leaf tobacco, domestic cotton, and calicoes.”

But no matter his relationship with formal law, Kinney’s army of hired gunmen brought a degree of stability that kept the robbers and cutthroats at bay. The editor of the *Corpus Christi Star* put it this way: “...there will in all probability be bands of marauders to prey upon property on the frontier. Unprincipled Mexicans from the other side, united with Americans, who have lived without labor as ‘followers of the army,’ and who will find a life of marauding more congenial to their natures than honest industry.” A statement as true today as it was then.

Lead and gunpowder

This period between independence from Mexico and statehood was a tough time that required tough men who did not wait to be backed up by the power of the state. By the time help arrived any issue that arose would be settled with lead and gunpowder. Lamar and later President Sam Houston understood this and left Kinney to his own accords. Kinney boosted his new town and by 1843 was doing a booming business, legal or otherwise. Corpus Christi had become a port and on March 1, 1845 the United States Congress annexed Texas by joint resolution when a battle between the leftover Texas Republican Army and Mexican Colonel Antonio Canales clashed near Fort Lipantitlan in June of 1842. The fort was located in northwestern Nueces County and was the site of camping grounds of the Lipan Apache Indians on the west bank of the Nueces River about three miles upstream from the old town of San Patricio on the east side of the river, at a point where a number of ancient trails beaten by game animals, Indians, and explorers crossed. It was to be the last battle before The U.S. Mexican War but Corpus Christi and Nueces County were established and so we end our story where it began; when in 1846 Nueces County was born, with war on the way.

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Treasure cont. from A1

Among the treasures supposedly hidden in the Coastal Bend are:

- Payroll for Spanish soldiers buried on St. Joseph Island's southern end.
- Gold and ornaments for a Vera Cruz cathedral buried on St. Joseph's Island opposite Rockport.
- A treasure chest buried on the west bank of the Nueces River where the old Laredo-to-Goliad road once crossed.
- Treasure belonging to a member of the Russian nobility hidden on the western side of Mustang Island. Treasure buried in sand dunes on Mustang and Padre Islands.
- A chest of gold and other valuables buried along the Nueces River on the Riverside Ranch.
- Money, jewels and gold plates belonging to Maximilian, former emperor of Mexico, dumped in

Laguna Madre just off Flour Bluff Peninsula.

- A Laffite fortune buried under a millstone on the northern tip of Padre Island. Gold, silver and jewels hidden by Hernando Cortez, later unearthed and reburied by Jesse James, near Three Rivers.
- Gold buried in Kleberg County from a Spanish ship stranded 20 miles south of Padre Island's northern tip.



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Island residents Paul Weber, Juli Weber, Noel Horan and Becky Horan, along with friends Bill and Jeanna Gaines took the Island Moon to the beautiful island of Aruba!



Shonna and Bo Soderqvist took the Island Moon to the Sydney Opra House



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The Boats of La Posada

From house parties to dock parties Islanders brought the toys! Three thousand five hundred and twenty toys to be exact. That includes forty two bikes. Organizers tell us that our La Posada Tots for Tots Coastal Bend ranks in the top donators in the nation right up there with Mattel and Lego. What a wonderful accolade to have.
Photos By Debbie Noble



Parade Grand Marshall Dale Rankin



Asher Riehl, the Youngest Captain in the Parade



All of the US Marines that participated in this year's La Posada



Christmas giving reaches new heights with the large amount of toys donated this year.



La Posada presented the US Marines with a check for \$30,000.

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Island Outdoors

On the Rocks

By Jay Gardner

Well, here we go with Emergency drought restrictions. Things are getting serious now, and the next thing you know, they will cut back on the water pressure. I talked to Mickey the other day, and he was getting quotes on getting a well put in his place there in Flour Bluff. He said the quote was for like \$12,000 (turnkey), and they were going like 160 feet down. The problem he said is that the well drilling company he talked to is 6 months backed up.

Peter was on the morning show the other day, and had a few interesting things to say, besides outlining the new restrictions. He mentioned that the city still has effluent available at the Oso treatment plant, but you need a truck and a commercial account and sign up for monthly billing. Good news is that it's relatively cheap, but the main problem is that the Oso plant is OTB and then some. The residential plan is supposed to be coming online shortly, and I'm curious how that's going to shake out. A little closer to home, we need to be working on getting an effluent loading area at the Whitecap WWTP and get the effluent lines up and running. He mentioned that we are discharging 30 million gallons a day into the waterways.

People are going to start looking a little more seriously about using graywater to keep their landscaping green and healthy. I have a washing machine (and dryer) on a side porch at my house, and I'm able to put my washing machine hose through a wall, attach another hose to it, and collect my graywater. The barrel it goes into is simply a trash can (it was new) that I drilled a hole through and put a boating through-hull fitting near the bottom that I can screw a garden hose on. The barrel is up on blocks, and I can then gravity feed the graywater into a bucket or my trees or plants if I need to. This also helps with drip irrigating my foundation so the doors and windows will all close and open correctly.

There is also a category for alternative onsite water, which includes rainwater, air-conditioning condensate, stormwater, swimming pool backwash, and other drain water (sinks, dishwasher, etc). Reverse osmosis decanted water also counts, and now I'm curious how much water from my R.O. system is being discarded; it can't be much worse than what's coming out of the tap, because that's where it comes from already. Both graywater and alternative onsite water can be used for foundations, gardening, composting, landscaping, and in a pinch, to flush toilets. Oh yeah, if you have an older toilet, you can fill up a 2-liter plastic bottle and put it in your toilet tank to save water on flushing through simple displacement. Plumbers discourage the use of bricks these days. At least Zanoni said that we could flush our outboards after using them in saltwater, and that we all need to be much more cognizant of our water use.

The nearshore currents have changed from south-to-north to north-to-south, which is bringing in a different type of floatsam on the beach. I've notice that the black mangroves are dropping their seeds, and they are floating out of the passes. You can find them on the south side of Port Aransas and Packery Channels. They look like green tear drops about the size of a quarter. They will readily grow in a bucket full of dirt and water and be quite happy.

Anyhoo folks, I actually saw a humming bird at one of my feeders the other day, I couldn't believe it. I had given up hope, but there it was. I put a little more juice in one for the stragglers. The folks are traveling, so I think we're on our own with a Lost Boys holiday. Hopefully there will be more hunting at the Ranchita and fishing on the Laguna. Drop me a line at jaygardner1032@gmail.com and we'll see you next time

On the Rocks.

Backwater Adventures

By Joey Farah



Above: This band of brothers scored on reds and black drum with live shrimp on the bottom along the entrance to the Padre Island Canals.

Left: Herds of drum are filling up the Padre Island Canals now as winter sets in! These two big ones were caught back to back on live shrimp our last really cold morning!



I wade fished over some muddy shallows in Baffin Bay this week and tricked this giant trophy to take a DOWN SOUTH LURES purple/chartreuse soft plastic with a lightly weighted jig head. Fish are regulating their body temperatures by moving on and out of the shallows now.

Yard of the Month



This month's Island Gardeners "Yard of the Month" is popular local realtor, Debbie Greene. She has combined artificial turf with plants that do not usually need watering to achieve very smart landscaping for our Island. The turf is encircled by Bird of Paradise, Bottle Brush, Vinca, and iconic Yellow Roses. These flowering plants give the front yard a welcoming feel. Crepe Myrtle, Magnolia, and an Olive tree add height to complete the yard. Just look for the "Yard of the Month" sign on Doubloon near Aquarius.

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By Chris Jordan

If you went to public school in San Antonio or Austin, you know the drill. Wednesday wasn’t just the middle of the week; it was Enchilada Wednesday, a holy day of obligation designed to drag you kicking and screaming over the hump.

This wasn’t a statewide mandate—students in Dallas or Houston were likely eating something indistinguishably beige—but for us in the South/Central cultural corridor, it was a ritual. And it didn’t happen by accident. It began with a directive in San Antonio’s North East Independent School District (NEISD).

On March 4, 1955, the district voted to centralize its scattered rural schoolhouses into a unified body. With that came a massive influx of students—swelling to over 15,000 by the end of the decade—and a directive to feed them efficiently. LaVerle Billingsley, the district’s Food Service Director, was staring down two distinct problems.

First, the USDA was offloading massive surpluses of “commodity foods” to schools—specifically five-pound blocks of processed American cheese and canned tomato paste. Second, student attendance consistently cratered in the middle of the week.

Billingsley’s solution was pure genius: she anchored the cafeteria’s most popular dish to the day with the lowest attendance. Commodity food was put to good use and butts were put in chairs. While Billingsley is the mother of the concept, she didn’t roll the enchiladas. That glory belongs to the anonymous cooks of the NEISD kitchens. They were the ones tasked with turning shelf-stable government staples into a good meal that could survive three hours in a steam table and still taste like heaven.

The result was a dish that didn’t just solve the attendance slump — it reversed it. Records from the 60s and 70s show attendance actually spiked on Wednesdays. It became the gold standard of institutional food service, spreading from San Antonio north to Austin, south to the Rio Grande Valley, and even on to Corpus Christi.

My parents would come have lunch with me at school sometimes. And one time they both showed up on a Wednesday. This was entirely predictable — they ate the same magical enchiladas when they were in high school. Now I was not one to be in any way ashamed of my parents and I cherished the days they would have lunch with me, but both of them at the same time was a bit much. I laid down some visitation rules: not of me — they weren’t getting a divorce — but for the enchiladas. Sorry, Mom and Dad — y’all can each have the enchiladas every other Wednesday.

These enchiladas depend on certain ingredients and techniques to create their archetypical synergy of flavor and texture. While Longhorn cheese, a type of Colby, is the traditional cheese of choice for enchiladas made in restaurants and households, the school cafeteria setting demands something that melts easily, stays melted, isn’t grainy, and doesn’t separate: enter government cheese, a processed American cheese food product that was born to melt.

The corn tortillas must be softened so they can be rolled without breaking. The standard method is to fry them briefly in oil — and really it’s just a quick dip. But even then it’s a slow process that gets slower the more enchiladas you have to make. So the Cafeteria Ladies — our hairnet heroes — came up with a more efficient method: steaming. This could be done in bulk and rendered soft, fluffy, non-greasy tortillas that were almost like thin dumplings.

The rest of the secret is a tale of two sauces. The cheese-stuffed, softened tortillas are baked in a roux-thickened liquid of tomato paste, water, and spices bloomed in hot oil. The enchiladas soak up some of this liquid while baking. A second sauce — the chili gravy — is poured over the hot enchiladas and topped with more cheese before being returned briefly to the oven.

And that’s it. The result is a textural masterpiece that defies the laws of culinary physics. The steamed tortillas — baked in that first sauce — don’t have the chewy resistance they do when fried. They yield

instantly into a mouthful of molten cheese. With the meat-heavy chili gravy ladled on top, you get this savory, mildly acidic, hearty punch that cuts right through the richness of the processed cheese. It’s not just lunch; it’s a warm hug from the state of Texas.

By the time I was a junior and senior at John Marshall High School in San Antonio, I was driving and could leave school for lunch if I wanted. My fourth period photography teacher, Mr. Collis, either kicked me out of the darkroom or locked me in it at lunch time every Wednesday. Either way, he damned sure wasn’t going to miss out on enchiladas — or even be late: he lived in a state of perpetual enchilada FOMO. My lunch dates with my parents had mostly evolved into me meeting them someplace off campus, but we still got a few Enchilada Wednesdays in. I love you, Mom and Dad. I love you, Walter Collis. I love you, Cafeteria Ladies. I love you, San Antonio. And I love you too, Texas.

After years of filing Freedom of Information Act requests with the NEISD here’s the official recipe. So now you can have Enchilada Wednesday any day of the week.

STEP ONE- The Enchilada Sauce

- 3 ounces flour
- 2 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon cumin
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper
- 2 2/3 tablespoons chili powder
- 1 teaspoon granulated garlic
- 1/2 teaspoon oregano
- 10 ounces tomato paste

Mix dry ingredients together. Heat two-thirds cup oil in saucepan. Add seasoning and mix together. Slowly add two cups of water and whisk to prevent clumps. Simmer for 30-45 minutes.

STEP TWO- The Enchilada Chili

- 1/3 cup flour
- 1/2 tablespoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon granulated garlic
- 1 3/4 teaspoons onion powder
- 1/2 tablespoon cumin
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 1/4 tablespoons chili powder

Mix dry ingredients together. Brown 12 ounces of ground beef on stove top. Stir in the seasoning mix and cook two more minutes. Add 2 1/2 cups of water. Add 1 1/4 cups canned tomatoes (with juice). Add 2 1/4 ounces of tomato paste. Mix together, bring to a boil, then reduce heat. Simmer for 30 minutes.

STEP THREE- The Enchiladas

1. Steam 36 corn tortillas.
2. Roll 1/2 ounce of cheese in each tortilla.
3. Arrange enchiladas seam-side down in greased pan(s).
4. Pour the enchilada sauce over.
5. Bake at 350°F for 15 minutes or until bubbly.
6. Top with chili and then cheese, return to oven 5 minutes or until cheese has melted.

The Port Aransas Cookbook is currently booking private chef dinners and catering for the spring season. We even have a few holiday dates still available.

theportaransascookbook@gmail.com

361-453-0147

By the numbers

Corpus Christi is a Renter-Friendly city

The following are numbers for the residential rental market in Corpus Christi released this week by RentCafe.

- 38% of rentals in Corpus Christi are at \$1,000 or less
- 3% above \$2,000
- 42% of the Corpus Christi population rents
- 9% of rentals are in large complexes
- 55% of rentals are in small complexes
- 32% of rentals are in single-family homes

87% of all rental units are 1- and 2-bedroom apartments

- 43% are one-bedroom
- 44% are two-bedroom
- 2% are studies
- 11% are three-bedroom or larger

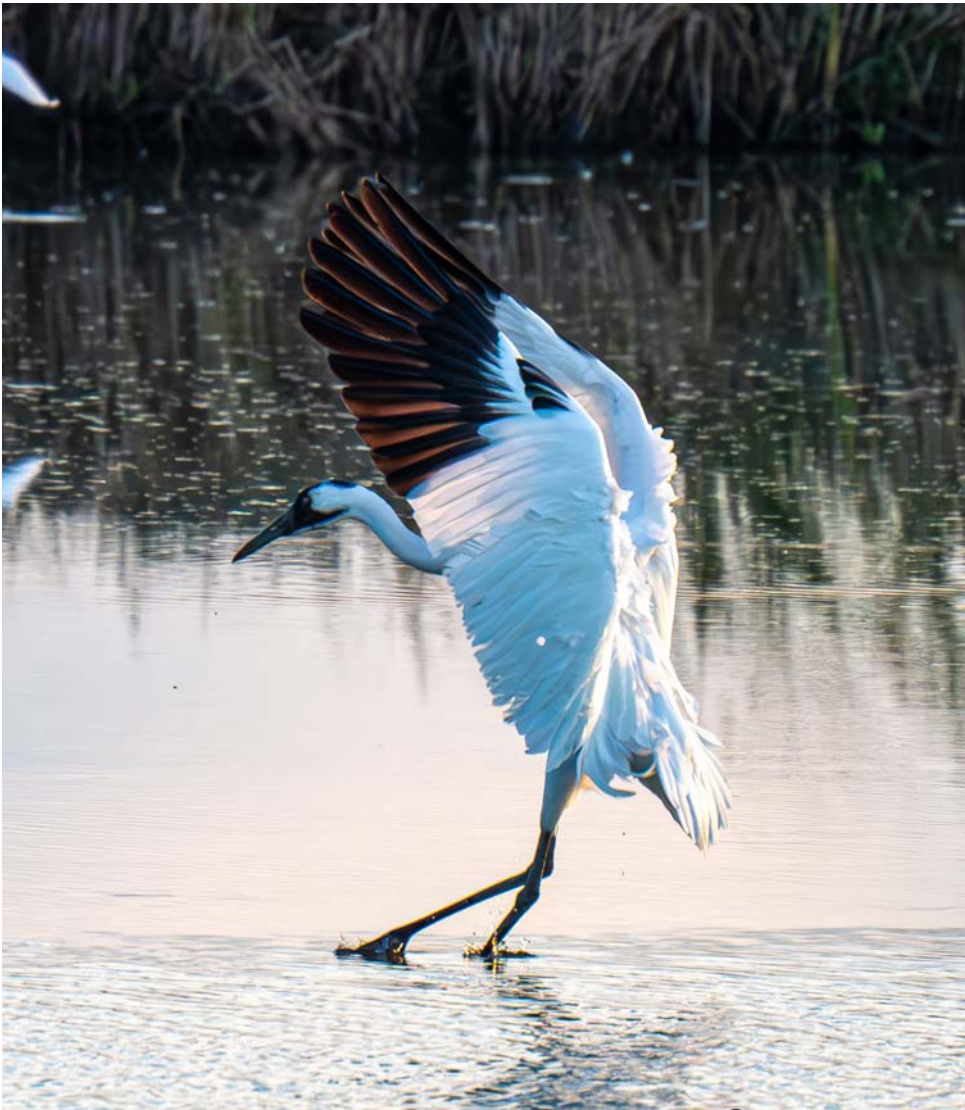
City Seeking Beach Vendors for 2026 Spring and Summer Season Applications Open December 15

The Corpus Christi Parks & Recreation Department is taking applications for permits for vendors along gulf beaches for the 2026 spring and summer from December 15, 2025, through January 16, 2026. These permits cover the spring and summer season, from March 1 to September 30, 2026.

- North Packery Beach and JP Luby: Marker 203, Marker 206, Marker 207
- South Packery Beach: Marker 212, Marker 212.5
- Michael J. Ellis Beach and Seawall: Marker 214.5, Marker 217, Marker 222, Windward Lot
- Whitecap Beach: Marker 223.5

Interested vendors can find the online application form and requirements at www.Corpus-ChristiTX.gov/Beach-and-Park-Vendor-Permits/.

Completed applications must be submitted by January 16, and permits will be issued by February 27. For more details, please call 361-826-3414.



Whooping Crane coming in for a landing. By Stephanie McMullen Vaughan

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By Gene Saegert

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Rotten Shrimp Casserole

COLD WATER LIVING

The Bi Polar Question

MYSTERY

How Mack the Knife Could Have Avoided The Blood Trail As Told By Shelly the Shark

GENERAL

The Shell Game Of Hermit The Crab

How To Retire at The State Aquarium

Stealing Bait and avoiding the hook asTold by Crafty Crab

Catch OO

Puff The Magic Puffer Fish

My Guardian Angel Fish

Lord Of The Lings

How Too Lead A Flats Boat Aground By Evasive Tailing

Stay Out Of My Bay Dora The Explorer!

Dancing With The Starfish

Note To Fishermen ”Empty Stringers Are Easier To Carry”

Fifty Shades of Bay

The Good The Bad and The Ugly

Ugly Is The New Beautiful As Told By Ima Dogfish

Of Mice and Manatee –A Port Aransas Visit

My Journey To The Priesthood As Told By Holy Mackerel.

How Grampa Red Broke a 50# Test Line a Recurring Family Reunion Story

The Pulitzer Prize Winning Story

How to Qualify As an Endangered Species.

Thought for the day: If a chemist gets sick, and they can’t helium or curium, do they have to barium?



Holiday Season castoffs

What can be recycled and what cannot?

When it comes to recycling the holiday season is the Superbowl as Corpus Christi Solid Waste Services is deluged with holiday clutter. So what can be recycled and what goes into the trash bin?

Here is what you need to know.

Recyclable items (belong in blue carts)


- Cardboard: Conserve space by flattening boxes
- Seasonal paper: Seasonal catalogs, mail, magazines, newspapers and greeting cards without glitter or foil
- Containers: Empty, clean, and dry tin/aluminum cans and plastic tubs (butter, sour cream, etc.)
- Plastic bottles: Lids/caps must be removed

Non-recyclable items (belong in green or brown carts)

- Decorations: Ribbons, bows, tinsel, wreaths, garland, string lights, and ornaments
- Contaminated Paper: Wrapping paper, and holiday cards with glitter or foil
- Packaging: Styrofoam, bubble wrap, and padded envelopes
- Plastics: All plastic bags
- Batteries: Disposable AA, C, and D batteries

The J.C. Elliott Transfer Station (7001 Ayers Street) is the designated drop-off point for specific items, including:

- Live Christmas trees – Customers may drop off their bare trees from December 26 to January 31, 2026.



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Thoughts from Reverend Ken

By Rev. Dr. Ken

It’s a familiar story. We know the characters well.

Mary is often pictured as lovely and fair, sometimes wearing a blue robe. She usually is gazing lovingly at a glowing baby, that never quite resembles a newborn baby.

Plus, that baby never seems to cry. Joseph is attentive. He is not sure what to do and he’s killing it!

The shepherds are gazing in wonder. Their puffy white balls of cotton are in the background. Sometimes we add a cow to the scene. The rays of the angels’ glory are streaming in the windows of a well-swept stable. The strains of Joy to the World are echoing throughout all creation. Magi are looking regal, even though they didn’t arrive to much later in the story.

It’s all so comforting and reassuring. It’s all so domesticated. It’s all so idyllic. It’s all so, AI-like.

Anyone who has spent any time on a farm or ranch know how it really is around animals or in stalls of animals. Anyone who has spent time in a birthing room knows it is not all meek and mild. Mary was a frightened teen, and Jospheh was way in over his head. The shepherds were the undesirables of the first century. They were very low on the socio-economic ladder in that day. The merchants probably appreciated their business. But they would have been thankful when they moved along.

I wonder if we prefer a photoshopped view of the birth of Jesus because our life is gritty enough. Day to day we work hard to keep our lives intact. Day to day we work hard to stem the tide of chaos in our personal life and in our communal life. We get enough realism in our news feeds with 24/7 breaking news.

It is nice to see a vision of something good, pure, and beautiful. It’s understandable. We put a lot of time and energy into managing things. We exert great effort to control as many variables of our twenty-first century lives as possible.

Yet, we need the grittiness of the actual birth of Jesus. It is in this grittiness where God is born and chooses to be with us. We need to be reminded that this story took place on the fringe. Jesus was born far away from the centers of power and wealth. The story is set in a little backwater town of Bethlehem. The baby Jesus was born to a scared young girl and an equally scared husband-to-be. These parents-to be got to

the family quarters late and had to take refuge with the animals. The only ones who noticed the birth were dirty shepherds and their dirtier sheep.

God chose the flesh, not of a warrior or ruler, but of a vulnerable baby. This is just where most would least expect God to be born. God did not come to the center of the world to herald a new beginning. God came to the fringe to call the orders and structures of power into question. This is good news!

When we allow ourselves to hear the unfiltered story, we can realize that God comes to the gritty edges of our lives. In the labor pains of a young mother and the cry of the infant, God signals that God is irreconcilably for we who live in a real and gritty world. God chooses to be joined to our ups and our downs, our hopes and our fears.

In the birth of a baby in a stall in Bethlehem heaven has been brought to earth. God identifies with our problems, our sorrows, our frustrations, and in time even our death. God chooses to be born into our unswept barns of challenge and our cold nights of doubt. God chooses to be born into our raw and gritty stables of life. God chose to be seen in a suffering servant with no intention to condemn the world but to redeem it.

It is time to revisit this very familiar story. Embrace the grittiness of the story. Unto to you this day is born a savior, Christ the Lord!

I invite you to a special Christmas Eve worship service at Island Presbyterian Church, December 24, 6 pm. It will be a candlelight communion service. Bring your families and let’s rejoice in God choosing to made known in the flesh so that we might know of the love that redeems all creation!

Each Sunday a bunch of humans gather to worship God in community at Island Presbyterian Church, giving thanks for grace, love, healing, and hope, working for peace, justice, and reconciliation. There is always room at the table for you! Join us on Sundays at 10 a.m., 14030 Fortuna Bay Drive, or on our Facebook page. Choose kindness, compassion, and love; do justice and make peace; welcome the stranger. pastor@islandpresby.com

Guiding Coastal Bend Families Toward Financial Confidence: The Leadership of Cory D. Summers



In the ever-changing world of personal finance, few advisors stand out for both professional excellence and genuine commitment to their community. Cory D. Summers, CFP®, CIS®, RICP®,

CRPC®, AAMS®, has spent more than two decades helping individuals and families throughout South Texas prepare for their financial futures with clarity, confidence, and integrity.

As Managing Partner of **Corpus Christi Financial Group**, and now the owner of **Coastal Financial on the Island**, Cory leads with a philosophy rooted in service. For him, financial planning is not simply about numbers—it’s about people, their goals, and the legacies they hope to leave behind.

A Career Built on Education, Preparation, and Trust

Since entering the financial services industry in 2004, Cory has built a reputation for guiding clients through every phase of their financial lives. His experience spans wealth accumulation during working years, income distribution throughout retirement, and long-term legacy planning for future generations. The depth of his expertise is reflected in his extensive list of industry designations—CFP®, CRC®, CIS®, RICP®, CRPC®, and AAMS®—credentials earned through rigorous coursework and a dedication to mastering all aspects of financial planning.

Cory’s commitment to excellence began early. He graduated **magna cum laude** from the University of Texas at Arlington with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance, a milestone that set the foundation for his future in wealth management.

Expanding Service Across Corpus Christi

Under Cory’s leadership, Corpus Christi Financial Group has earned a reputation for

delivering thoughtful, personalized financial guidance. His recent acquisition of **Coastal Financial** marks an exciting new chapter—one that brings two respected firms together to better serve the Coastal Bend community.

With locations both on the south side of Corpus Christi and on Padre Island, Cory and his team are widening their reach while maintaining the personal touch clients value. This expansion strengthens their ability to support families, retirees, and business owners seeking long-term, relationship-driven financial guidance.

A Commitment to South Texas Beyond the Office

Cory’s impact extends far beyond his client meetings. Believing strongly in the power of financial education, helping individuals gain the confidence and knowledge needed to make sound decisions about their future.

Whether he’s guiding a new retiree through income planning or speaking to a classroom about building wealth, Cory’s mission remains the same: to empower people with the tools and support they need to achieve financial independence.

A Vision for the Future

With more than 21 years of experience, Cory continues to embody the values that have shaped his career—integrity, relationship-driven service, and a passion for helping others succeed. His leadership at Corpus Christi Financial Group and Coastal Financial ensures that families across the Coastal Bend have access to trusted expertise during every chapter of their financial journey.

For Cory D. Summers, financial planning is more than a profession—it’s a lifelong calling to serve the community he calls home.

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Sports Talk Special to the Island Moon



Top quarterbacks of all time- Part 5

By Dotson Lewis



Dotson's Note: Who is the greatest quarterback of all time? It's a question that has been posed countless times. You might have a good idea on who is No. 1. But what about Nos. 2-25? Now those are the spots in the football universe where the QB debate gets pretty interesting. Makes for good conversation, too. I thought it would be a good time to discuss the game's most exalted position, and to contrast the most celebrated players that played it. It's always best when composing a list like this to allow some time to have passed since the most recent triumphs and victories. Otherwise, those achievements may seem greater than they will be after the passage of time. Therefore, we are going to only going to look at the quarterbacks who were playing through 2019. We're not considering anything that has happened in the 2020s. Patrick Mahomes won his first Super Bowl in 2019 so he, and all the newest "crop" of quarterbacks, can't enter the conversation at this point. Thanks to the late Bill Morgan and to Elliot Harrison for many of the facts contained in this report and to the late Bill Morgan.

Here We Go

9-John Elway: If winning is the lone gauge for determining the finest quarterbacks in league history -- a method we discussed in the Rodgers section but one I don't subscribe to -- then Elway's career received a boost from those back-to-back Super Bowl wins in 1997 and 1998. In fact, immediately after winning those rings, I recall some folks vaulting Elway to Johnny Unitas-level status. Reasonable? Well, you can view Elway's career from several prisms. One of the most common is for critics to say he may be a Hall of Fame quarterback, but far from the greatest, due to the fact that Denver's late 90s championship teams won because of a supercharged running game behind Terrell Davis. Or, there is the vantage point of Elway's early chapters, when he was considered a one-man band that willed the Broncos to three Super Bowl appearances in his first seven years. Yet another view stems from a pure talent perspective. For all you Patrick Mahomes junkies out there, hop on YouTube and watch yourself a scoop of Elway from 1985 or '86. What an arm. Extremely mobile, too. hn

8-Roger Staubach: There is only one Roger Staubach. There will never be another player like him, much less quarterback. He served in the Navy for four years, including a tour in Vietnam, upon graduating from the academy and was the ultimate franchise representative, embodying all that was right about professional sports while never being a

distraction to his team, save for the artificial one Tom Landry created when he began rotating a young Staubach and Craig Morton EVERY PLAY. What young quarterback has ever had to deal with THAT? Staubach was the face of the franchise, and by the late 1970s, the face of the entire league. In the middle of it all was a relatively brief, yet exemplary career. In only eight seasons as a starter, Staubach started four Super Bowls (winning two), led the league in passer rating four times, and finished with an 85-29 record. Losing out on those four seasons while he served in the Navy and the fact that he might have played longer had injuries, especially concussions, not piled up on him ultimately hurts Staubach on this list. Rightfully so, as longevity is part of the deal. Yet, Staubach didn't go out with a whimper like so many Hall of Fame quarterbacks. He led the NFC in passer rating in each of his final three seasons, and made the Pro Bowl in each of those years. Staubach led a ferocious comeback in his final regular season game, throwing two touchdowns in the final two minutes and change to beat the Redskins, and win the NFC East.

7-Dan Marino: Marino is considered the universal exception to the "thou shalt win a Super Bowl to be great» sports proverb that has pervaded analysis over the last 30 years. It used to be, back when the Super Bowl was young, that Y.A. Tittle, Dan Fouts, and other quarterbacks who never won a title but displayed excellence, and put forth gaudy numbers (for their time), could be counted among the top-shelf passers in league history. No more, except for Marino, it seems. So how has Marino transcended one of the most tired, stale and, dumb. Although one can't be sure, the educated guess is that the Dolphins legend's wow factor was so off the charts that he couldn't be denied. While Marino displayed an impressive release and arm strength in college, he seemed to grow into his body by the time he entered the NFL. He was quicker and stronger from an arm standpoint at 22 than he was at 19 or 20. The ball zipped off his hand, and it only took .30 seconds to cock the arm and let fly. Marino was not quite the same player after an Achilles injury in 1993, but he was still among the top quarterbacks in the game. Prior to that injury, the discussion of the best QBs in the game was reserved for Marino and Joe Montana. Except Marino never handed the ball off to Wendell Tyler or Roger Craig like Montana and didn't have four defensive backs on his team make the Pro Bowl in one season like Montana, or the benefit of having the entire fate of the team always on his shoulders. Thus, seventh he sits. **Stat you need to know:** Dan Marino's 1984 season, and for good reason. His 48 touchdown passes broke the single-season record of 36 and stood for 20 years. He became the first QB to break the 5,000-passing-yards barrier. He was sacked just 13 times (fewest in the NFL among QBs to attempt 200-plus passes) despite leading the league with 564 pass attempts.

TO BE CONTINUED

Science and the Sea

A Neighborhood of Ice Nests

So much of the ocean remains undiscovered because it is so difficult to reach, but the sea revealed more of its secrets in July 2017, when an iceberg nearly the size of Delaware broke away from a large ice shelf off the coast of Antarctica's Weddell Sea.

The slab of ice, about 2,239 square miles in size, separated from the Larsen C Ice Shelf in the Graham Land peninsula of Antarctica and left exposed a seabed previously hidden under 650 feet of ice. NOAA Researchers sent a remotely operated vehicle named Lassie to explore the area in early 2019. When they discovered more than 1,000 dimples in the ocean floor, they were baffled at first. The dimples were not randomly scattered but were instead arranged in clear patterns. Some were shaped like a crescent, others like an oval, others in a line, and others in a sharp U-shape. Scientists on board the research vessel debated what the dimples could be and added up the clues—

their size, their shape, and knowledge of local sea life.

They concluded the dimples were nests of yellowfin rockcod. Male yellowfin rockcod guard nests and their surrounding area for four months after females lay eggs, so the vast neighborhood of clustered nests likely enabled a network of guards to keep the eggs safe. Scientists suspect isolated nests on the outer edges were guarded by larger, stronger fish that could defend the area alone. About one in seven nests had pebbles in or around them, on which biologists think the fish laid their eggs to prevent rotting on the floor or predation from animals in the mud. Closer investigation also revealed that 72 of the 1,036 nests still contained larvae. Discovery of this unexpected nursery area underneath an ice shelf supports the idea of establishing a protected area in the Weddell Sea to keep future generations of yellowfin rockcod safe.



Yellowfin rockcod nests were found in Antarctic waters after a massive iceberg broke away, revealing the previously hidden seabed. Credit: Valerie Loeb, NOAA

Texas Adds Jobs as Labor Force Grows by 21,700

Texas had a total of 14,343,800 nonfarm jobs after adding 4,600 positions in September. Over the year, the state added 168,000 jobs for an annual nonfarm growth rate of 1.2 percent, outpacing the national growth rate by 0.4 percentage points.

Texas' civilian labor force registered at 15,879,000 after adding 21,700 people over the month and reaching a new record high level for the series. Over the year, Texas' civilian labor force has added 164,000 people. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Texas was stable at 4.1 percent.

The Construction industry had the largest private sector over-the-month increase in September after adding 4,300 jobs. Trade,

Transportation, and Utilities added 2,000 jobs over the month while Other Services added 1,500. In addition, Leisure and Hospitality posted an annual growth rate of 2.2 percent in September, which was the highest of any major industry. Among metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) in Texas, the Amarillo and Midland MSAs had the lowest unemployment rates with a not seasonally adjusted rate of 3.3 percent, followed by the San Angelo MSA at 3.4 percent.

Employment estimates released by TWC are produced in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.



Whooping Cranes By Stephanie McMullen Vaughan



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Sudoku

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Going Easy On You...

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		4	1		9		
			7	3	2	4	6
3	5	7			8		6
	1						2
	9		5			1	3
7		9	3	2	5		
			6		7	3	
2				1			7

Knuckle-Cracker

6					7		4
					6	8	1
4	3	7		9			
					5		2
	5		9	6	2		8
8			4				
				8		2	7
3	2	6	7				3
	7		5				4

Mind-Numbing Frustration

6			5				3
		8			3		7
	2	5				1	
		3		1			2
	6	9				4	1
	1			4		3	
		2				6	4
	9		4			7	
	5			7			1

Brain-Buster

		1	9				3
							7
2		8	6		1		
6		4					5
7				8			1
	3					2	7
			1	3	9		4
	2						
3				9	7		

Island Crossword

Crossword Solution on classifieds page

Across

1. Some may be cold
5. Landed
9. Fervidness
14. "Doctor Zhivago" character
15. Seat of Irish kings
16. Regional animals
17. Straightforward
20. Type of blanket
21. Appearance
22. Names in publishing
23. Not quick on the uptake
25. Civil rights worker Medgar
27. Rightmost column, typically
29. Samara source
30. Fissure
33. Young cod
36. Viscount's superior
38. Vronsky's love
39. Straightforward
42. Party servers
43. Like a Marine's bed, usually
44. Genesis
45. Hold out one's paw?
46. Parked oneself
47. Homestead's county
49. Light sleeper
51. Peruse again
55. Part of F.D.R.
58. PC screen image
60. Born
61. Straightforward
64. Jerk one's knee, perhaps
65. Picked-on instruments, for short
66. Basic bit
67. Princess of Colchis
68. Jane of literature
69. Invigorates (with "up")

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20					21					22				
23				24				25	26					
				27				28		29			30	31
33	34	35					36	37				38		
39					40					41				
42					43					44				
45					46				47	48				
				49				50		51			52	53
55	56	57					58	59					60	
61							62					63		
64							65					66		
67							68					69		

Down

1. Shortcomings
2. Backing for an exhibit
3. Muse of poetry
4. Cap with a pompon
5. It suits you
6. Type of edition
7. Castle with many steps?
8. Feather bed?
9. Maintain to be true
10. Balsa vessels, e.g.
11. Type of citizenship
12. Story start
13. Opposite of "yippee!"
18. Makes improvements to
19. 1887 La Scala premiere
24. Low barks
26. Knowledgeable
28. Group with a lot of bills
30. Black wildebeests
31. Cost for a deal?
32. Bygone era
33. Give the brush-off
34. Place for seeds
35. Bilbo Baggins' find
37. Explain further
38. Dogpatch denizen
40. Scythian warrior
41. Gnawing mammal
46. Musical composition
48. Wake from sleep
49. Terpsichore's forte
50. Daring
52. Growing outward
53. Fabulous fabulist
54. Judges to be
55. Where students may go at night
56. Fencing tool
57. Take charge on the dance floor
59. A Witch of Eastwick
62. Expected
63. Insignia spot



Female white morph reddish egret letting her mate know she has arrived.
By Lu Ann Kingsbury



Port A Lighted Boat Parade last Saturday.



The Ugliest Ugly Sweater winners at the Gaff last Monday..

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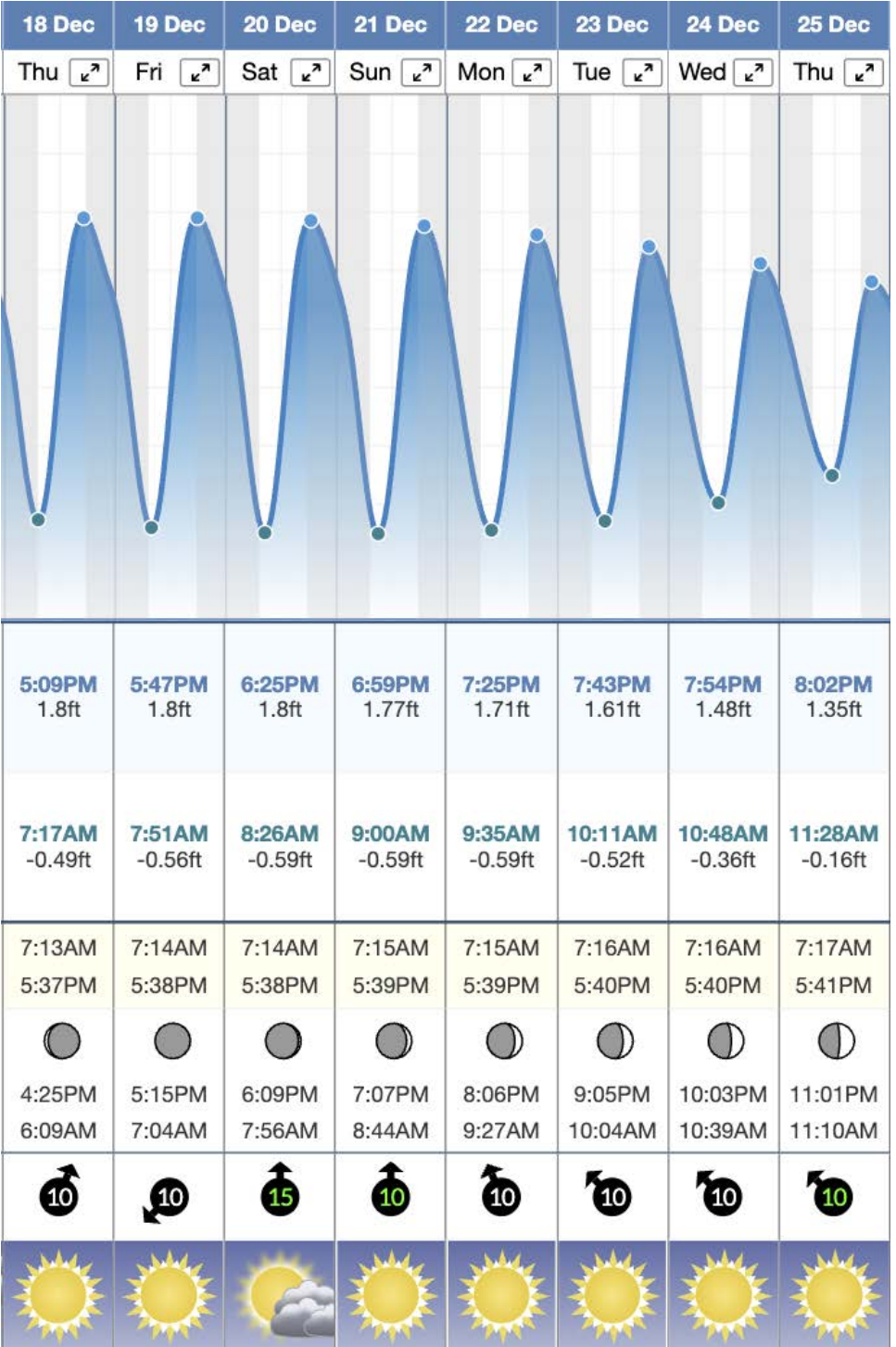
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Tides of the Week



Crossword Solution

F	E	E	T		A	L	I	T		A	R	D	O	R
L	A	R	A		T	A	R	A		F	A	U	N	A
A	S	A	M	A	T	T	E	R	O	F	F	A	C	T
W	E	T		M	I	E	N		T	I	T	L	E	S
S	L	O	W	E	R		E	V	E	R	S			
			O	N	E	S		E	L	M		G	A	P
S	C	R	O	D		E	A	R	L		A	N	N	A
N	O	I	F	S	A	N	D	S	O	R	B	U	T	S
U	R	N	S		M	A	D	E		O	N	S	E	T
B	E	G		S	A	T		D	A	D	E			
			D	O	Z	E	R		R	E	R	E	A	D
D	E	L	A	N	O		I	C	O	N		N	E	E
O	P	E	N	A	N	D	S	H	U	T	C	A	S	E
R	E	A	C	T		U	K	E	S		A	T	O	M
M	E	D	E	A		E	Y	R	E		P	E	P	S

Christmas in Port Aransas

photo by Neesy Thompkins



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Moon Monkey got back into the winner's circle last Saturday at the Gaff's Belt Sander Races.

The naughty list:

BBB's 12 scams of the holidays

The Better Business Bureau (BBB) warns consumers to stay alert this holiday season, as scammers take advantage of increased shopping, travel, job searches, and charitable giving. Many holiday scams can be avoided by being cautious with social media ads, unsolicited messages, and any request to pay by wire transfer, gift card, prepaid debit card, or third-party payment app—common red flags.

1. Misleading social media ads Online purchase scams remain a major concern during the holidays. The 2024 BBB Scam Tracker Risk Report ranked online purchase scams as the fourth riskiest scam reported by consumers in 2024. Victims report paying for items that never arrive, receiving counterfeit or inferior products, or being unknowingly enrolled in recurring charges.

2. Social media gift exchanges

Holiday gift exchanges like "Secret Sister," wine or bourbon swaps, and even pet-themed versions continue to circulate online. These schemes encourage participants to share personal information and send money or gifts to strangers and are often illegal pyramid schemes.

3. Holiday apps

Holiday-themed apps offering video chats with Santa, sleigh tracking, or wish lists can collect personal data or contain excessive ads or malware. Consumers should review privacy policies, read reviews, and be cautious with free apps.

4. Fake toll collection texts

Scammers impersonate toll road agencies and send texts claiming unpaid tolls, directing recipients to click a link to pay. Consumers should never click unexpected links and instead verify balances directly with the official toll authority.

5. Free gift cards

Phishing emails, texts, and pop-up ads promising "free" gift cards are designed to steal personal information or install malware. Unsolicited gift card offers should be deleted or marked as spam.

6. Temporary holiday jobs

Employment scams were the number one riskiest scam for people ages 18–34 in 2024. Fake job listings often target seasonal workers by requesting upfront fees or sensitive personal information.

7. Impostor scams

Scammers create fake websites and social media accounts that closely resemble real businesses, especially during peak shopping and return periods. Consumers should verify websites and use official customer service channels.

8. Fake charities

The end of the year is a prime time for charity scams. Donors should avoid pressure to give immediately and verify organizations through BBB's Give.org or official government resources before donating.

9. Fake shipping notifications

An increase in online shopping leads to more phishing emails and texts claiming package delivery issues or additional fees. Consumers should only track packages using links from original order confirmations.

10. Advent calendar scams

Popular advent calendars are frequently advertised through social media scams. BBB has received reports of calendars not delivered, arriving incomplete, or being significantly lower quality than advertised.

11. Holiday wish list item scams

Deep discounts on luxury goods, electronics, and in-demand toys are often signs of counterfeits or knockoffs. Consumers should be especially cautious when purchasing from online marketplaces or resellers.

12. Puppy scams

Families looking to add a pet should be alert. Experts estimate up to 80% of sponsored pet ads online may be fake, with scammers requesting deposits for animals that do not exist. Always see a pet in person before paying.

Consumers are encouraged to research before buying, avoid rushed decisions, and report scams to BBB Scam Tracker. More tips and resources are available at BBB.org.

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Three Chords and the Truth

By Ronnie Narmour
ronnienarmour@gmail.com

Joe Ely died...



The great Joe Ely died.

Joe King Carrasco just called to tell me Joe Ely just died from Dementia and pneumonia. This one is hard. I'm from Lubbock and have known Joe since 1971. To say he was a big influence in my life would be a severe understatement. I hung around Lubbock after high school for a couple of semesters at Texas Tech and then moved to Austin in 1973. I remember noticing Joe one day when I was riding my bike around Tech when I was a student there and I saw Joe riding his bike around and he was focused. He'd ride a little, then stop and write in his little notebook then ride on take some more notes. I later figured out that he was writing songs. At that time I was good friends with two guys in Joe's band, Rick Hulett on guitar and Small Don Burrows on keys. I loved to go see them at Fat Dogs and the Cotton Club when Tommy Hancock had it. Right about then, Small Don had called to see if it would be ok to bring the whole band to Austin and stay at my house for a while. I said sure, why not. I was going to UT and living in an old house with a chicken coop and one day the whole band showed up with Eddie Beethoven and Jim Epler in tow. There were Lubbock musicians lying around all over the place. There was a lot of free time and we'd have wrestling matches sometimes in the chicken coop or go play pool some place cheap. Joe loved to play pool and bet on it. He always kept an onion handy that he'd use for the 8 ball when he was betting. Joe would frequently get me to take him up to the Drag and play for tips. Money was tight. I remember one time Joe and I had gone up to Liberty Lunch to get out of the house and we accidentally got locked in the big cement silo in the ally. It was dark and freaky. So one day, I remember going with the whole band out to Tiny McFarland's place on the Pedernales and noticed Joe pulling Tiny aside, and they talked. It was like the next day that we heard that Tiny had hooked the band up to open for the Lost Gonzo/Jerry Jeff Walker guys at the Armadillo. It was a very cool gig and after Joe's band played he shuffled me off to take him to some place in a strip center in north Austin to see somebody Joe wanted to meet. It turned out to be Billy Joe Shaver. I guess the rest is history there. I have a lot of stories with Joe whom I always called by his real name, Earle. This world is sure going to miss you old friend. Rest easy.



Kip and Heidi at the Gaff's Ugly Sweater Party last Monday.

Scattered shots...

There was a lot going on last week. Me and my Mermaid Gal were invited to ride on the lead boat in the La Posada Boat Parade on NPI with Dale and Jan Rankin last Friday. Dale was the Grand Marshall this year and I got to ride on the bow with the trumpet and saxophone players. They blasted out every Christmas song in the book as we went up and

down the canals and drifted around in circles for a couple of hours. It sure was fun. All the golf cart parades I participate in are cute and all, but La Posada is fire! It was my first ever Posada. The next day I raced my Moon Monkey at the Gaff's WORLD FAMOUS BELT SANDER RACES and came in at a respectable third out of 18 racers. I actually had to beat the Grinch to do it. And on Saturday night we skirted around the traffic nightmare known as the Port Aransas Lighted Boat Parade and watch the drone show from our house. Later on I caught some live music with the John Cortez blues trio at Shorty's and some Cruise Control at the Sip Yard. And on Monday, the Gaff held their Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest which was bonafied.



Boudreaux and Pousson will play the Gaff this Friday.

Coming this weekend...



Jason Suthern will play the Sip Yard on Friday.

Coming this Thursday the 18th, you can always catch the Johnson All Starz at Shorty's with somebody new every week. On Friday Darren McGill will play Shorty's, our Cajun pals, Boudreaux and Pousson, will play the Gaff and Americana stud, Jason Suthern, will play the Sip Yard. And on Saturday the 20th, the Gaff will welcome back Lucky the Chicken for another episode of watching Lucky poop for fun and profit in the name of Bingo. Also on Saturday, the Gaff will be competing with Bernie's for the best decorated club for the holidays called the Christmas Cup. And on Sunday the 21st, the Gaff will have yet another holiday party called the Jimmy Gates Christmas Office Party and costume contest. Also on Sunday, Coach Big Jimmy Dugan will be blowing minds at Shorty's. And of course the Gaff will have Christmas Day Celebrations all day on the 25th.

♪♪♪ And, that's the truth ♪♪♪



John Cortez and Jody Jennings played Shorty's last weekend.
Photo by David Dickie



It's the Moon Monkey vs The Grinch racing power tools at the Gaff.



The Port A Lighted Boat Parade was last Saturday. Photo by Neesy Thompkins

LIVE MUSIC TONIGHT

Thursday.

December 18

Johnson All Starz @ Shortys
Joseph Martinez @ The Slip
Michael Anthony Perez @ Pep's
Portland
Navarro & the Creatures @ Surf Club



@ Shorty's
Riptide Cowboy Open Mic @ Mikel May's
Too
Emma James @ Surf Club

Friday.

December 19

Darren McGill @ Shorty's
Jason Suthern @ Sip Yard
Boudreaux & Pousson @ Gaff
Cruise Control @ Pelican Lounge
Michael Burts @ Surf Club
Dreaming in Color @ Retro

Saturday.

December 20

JUDGING FOR CHRISTMAS CUP @ Gaff
CHICKEN POOP BINGO @ Gaff
Jim Dugan @ Gaff
Bushbullit @ Sip Yard
San Juan Underground @ Shorty's
Diamond's Edge @ Pelican Lounge
The Groove @ South TX Icehouse
Love Street @ Pauly's Beer Garden
Alley Catz @ Omni CCRTA
Palacios Bros @ Whale Bone
Diamond's Edge @ Pelican Lounge
Flatbroke @ Surf Club
Two Steppin' Third Coast @ Mikel May's
Tumble Dry Low @ Headliners Fulton
Dreams @ Fifth & Elm
Portland
Navarro & the Creatures @ Boneshakers Portland

Sunday.

December 21

JIMMY GATES OFFICE CHRISTMAS PARTY @ Gaff
Jim Dugan, Ty Dietz



JASON SUTHERN DEC 19
BUSHBULLIT DEC 20
CATHOUSE DEC 26
SCARECROW PEOPLE DEC 27
JOE KING CARRASCO DEC 31



BELTSANDER RACES EVERY 2ND & 4TH SAT
OPEN MIC EVERY WED WITH BRAD E.

ROBERT MCCOY DEC 18
BOUDREAUX & POUSSON DEC 19
JIM DUGAN DEC 20
JIM GATES OFFICE PARTY DEC 21
BLACK EYED PEA OFF JAN 1

SHORTY'S

JIM DUGAN & TY DIETZ EVERY SUN
THE ALL STARS EVERY THUR 8-12
DARREN MCGILL DEC 19
SAN JUAN UNDERGROUND DEC 20
ART BARRERA DEC 26
LUCK DOGZ DEC 27
JOHN CORTEZ DEC 31

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GOLF CARTS FOR RENT

Monday.

December 22

Michael Burts @ Pelican Lounge

Tuesday.

December 23

Cleartones @ Palm Republic
Carl Hayes Open Mic @ Salty Dolphin
Rich Lockhart @ Packery Bar
Los Locals @ Palm Republic
Heavy Soul @ Surf Club

Wednesday.

December 24

CHRISTMAS CUP COMPETITION @ Gaff
US- Penny & Joe @ Pelican Lounge
Billy Snipes @ Doc's

Christmas.

December 25

CHRISTMAS DAY CELEBRATION @ Gaff
Johnson All Starz @ Shortys

Friday.

December 26

Art Barrera @ Shorty's
Cathouse, Scarecrow People @ Sip Yard
Love Street @ Pelican Lounge
The Groove @ Sugar Shack RP
Scarecrow People @ Surf Club

Saturday.

December 27

BELT SANDER RACES @ Gaff
Jim Dugan @ Gaff
Lucky Dogz @ Shorty's
Palacios Bros @ Vernon's
Dan Sullivan @ Lelo's
Jerry Ward & Dirty Birds @ Pelican

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