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Issue 1167

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The Island Moon

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August 27, 2026

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Wildflowers at sunrise By Lu Ann Kingsbury

Around The Island

Island Moon Live is on
Thursday's from 11-12 and 1-2
on 1440 KEYS AM, 98.7 FM,
and on YouTube



By Dale Rankin

It's been relatively quiet *Around the Island* this week as the kids are back in school and traffic from OTB has slowed down – both literally and figuratively as the talk of The Island has been the lowering of the speed limit on State Highway 361 from 60 mph to 50.

If there was any doubt that the lower limit would be enforced, that was put to rest with the ubiquitous presence of state troopers and Corpus Christi Police working the road. It didn't take long for change to come after the recent series of deaths from car accidents as State Representative Todd Hunter announced Thursday on the *Island Moon Live* radio show that changes were coming and the reduction in speed was announced the next day. Officers reportedly wrote more than 200 speeding tickets in the first 48 hours after the limit was lowered.

It is worth noting that the same folks complaining about the lower speed limit which took effect on Tuesday were the ones calling for "something to be done" on Monday. Look at it this way – if driving 50 mph across The Island is the worst thing that happens to you on any day then it's a pretty good day. The last week has seen a flurry of activity aimed at making longer term improvements to the road and expect to see more announcements in the next few months.

Short Term Rentals

Short Term Rentals found their way back into the news this week, see the story in this issue. Change is coming to the city's STR ordinance but so far it does not appear it will pose a threat to Island neighborhoods. But we need to keep an eye on the developments as it looks like the issue is headed for a November review by the city council.

Hot Occupancy Tax

Note the numbers in this issue regarding the city's Hotel Occupancy Tax. Historically Padre Island and the portion of Mustang Island between Packery Channel and the Port Aransas City Limits generate about \$6 million annually. The money is used to maintain gulf

Around cont. on A2

Short-Term Rental rules about to change

Closing loopholes and stepping up enforcement

By Dale Rankin

The Corpus Christi City Council on Tuesday took the first steps toward reforming the way the rules for Short-Term-Rentals are enforced across the city.

A review of the STR ordinance passed in 2022 came about after a group of homeowners on Ocean Drive complained to the council that an entrepreneur bought up what he told the council is \$20

million worth of real estate along Ocean Drive and started renting it for short-term stay. A look at the location of the 1547 STR units across the city finds a cluster of them near downtown where nearby residents say overcrowding in STR units, noise, and parking have become an ongoing problem.

The 2022 ordinance allows for 15% of the homes on a block to be rented for overnight stay. But

residents told the council that the owner in some cases was changing the addresses on corner homes to increase the number of STR allowed by moving houses – on paper – from one block to another.

As the discussion evolved it came to light that the City of Corpus Christi has discontinued the hotline for reporting abuses at STR

Rentals cont. on page A8

Speed limit on State Highway 361 dropped to 50 mph

More changes expected after meeting of State Legislature in 2027

The speed limit on State Highway 361 between SPID and Port Aransas was lowered to 50 mph this week after a series of fatal wrecks on the 15-mile long stretch in recent weeks. The move came as State Representative Todd Hunter told the Island Moon Live radio audience this week that the speed limit change is the first of many changes planned for the road over the next year.

"It is time to stop talking about what to do and get busy," Hunter said Thursday, the change in



The new speed limit signs on 361

speed limit was announced the following day and took effect on Tuesday, August 25. Texas State troopers and Corpus Christi Police have been active all week enforcing the new limit, primarily with warning tickets.

Previous attempts to widen the road have stalled due to the existence of wetlands along the roadway and funding. Hunter said he expects funding to improve the road to come from the session of

361 cont. on page A3

A little Island history

Hurricane Harvey 2017 Nine years ago this week



Big sink hole in the street by Virginia's.
Photo by Ronnie Narmour

By Dale Rankin

When we returned to The Island the day after Hurricane Harvey hit we weren't sure what to expect. As it turned out Padre Island for the most part didn't get nearly the damage that Port Aransas sustained. The center of the eye of Harvey passed over San Jose Island about six miles north of Port Aransas but as we drove north along State Highway 361 it was easy to see

History cont. on A5



Trailer parks did not do well.



Big sink hole in the street by Virginia's.
Photo by Ronnie Narmour



Boats at the gas station at the corner of Ave G. and Alister

By the numbers

Hotel Occupancy Tax – How much does The Island contribute?

The following numbers for collections of the City of Corpus Christi's Hotel Occupancy Tax was obtained through a Freedom of Information Request by the Island Moon. It shows collections for the years 2024 and 2025.

\$19,238,366.20 - 2024

\$19,688,503.73 - 2025

These numbers show HOT collections for the 78418-area code which includes Padre Island and Flour Bluff. It does not include overnight stay businesses north of Mustang Island State Park and south of the Port Aransas City Limits where the properties historically generate approximately \$3 million annually.

\$2,828,185.83 - 2024

\$2,794,348.89 - 2025

Paddle for Parkinson's Saturday, September 5

The 19th annual Paddle for Parkinson's fundraiser is set for Saturday, September 5 at the Gypsy Street boat ramp across the street from Billish Park. The event begins at 9 a.m. and registration includes ant-shirt and barbeque. Late registration packet pickup can be done on September 3 from 4-7 p.m. at Brewster Street Icehouse on The Island, 15251 Leeward Dr. To register or volunteer go to www.catchthecure.org or call 361 960-9597. The annual event gives Islanders a chance to show support for those with Parkinson's and their loved ones. The event is open to the public.



2024 Paddle for Parkinson's



Speedy Stop construction continues with an opening date around this coming spring break. A Speedy Stop official said this week they will not have electric vehicle charging stations.

Around cont. from A1

beaches but is also part of the annual \$14.5 million cost overruns at the Hilliard Center downtown. Control of the funds rests in the hands of the Corpus Christi City Council where there is an election on.

City Council Candidates

Two public meetings of the 29 candidates running for seats on the Corpus Christi City Council that will appear on Island ballots are scheduled for Wednesday, September 16 and Wednesday, September 23. A total of 47 candidates will be on the ballot and 29 of them are running for Mayor, At-Large, and District 4 which are the city races that will be included on Island ballots. The September 16 meeting will feature At-Large candidates and the September 23 will be for Mayor and District 4. Both are at 6 p.m. at Island Presbyterian Church.

Opening of Island canals

There has been some movement this week with regards to the opening of Island canals to water flow as some behind the scenes movement has begun to push for an October opening. Nothing has been released publicly by the involved parties but the phone lines have heated up.

Farrah Fawcett

The statue of Corpus Christi native Farrah Fawcett we first reported on back in June became a reality this week as the city council approved the placing of it on the downtown seawall. The iconic Charlie's Angels star would have been 80 next year. The statue was paid for by contributions from Fawcett's friends.

Briscoe King Groundbreaking

Groundbreaking for the new \$8 million Briscoe King Pavilion is set for Tuesday, September 8. This is a Big One folks and given that the event comes just two months ahead of the November Election it should be well attended by the political class. The new facility will be built next to the current pavilion and will include the air conditioned meeting space so long needed Around the Island.

There was also some bad news over at Bob Hall Pier this week as vandals caused \$5000 worth of damage by throwing equipment into the salt water. County officials are circulating photos of the suspected culprits so if you see your obnoxious cousin's picture making the rounds he might be moving into a Really Big House soon with full service meals.

That's all for now everybody, if you are headed to Port Aransas leave early and enjoy the view, in the meantime say hello if you see us Around the Island.



Model of the Farrah Fawcett statue

Parrot Heads give back

The Padre Island Parrot Head Club of CC. hosted a happy hour at the Pelican Lounge. The charity was Flour Bluff Elementary School so they collected lots of school supplies for the kids.



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Letters to the Editor



TxDOT seeks public comment on SH 361 safety

Public town hall tentatively scheduled for September

Aug. 20, 2026

CORPUS CHRISTI - For the next two weeks the Texas Department of Transportation is asking for suggestions from the public on ways to improve safety on the section of SH 361 between Corpus Christi and Port Aransas.

The public can submit their comments and concepts to this email address: SH361_Safety@txdot.gov. This information will be used to inform a public town hall at a time and location to be determined but tentatively scheduled for early to mid-September on Mustang Island.

Below are recent safety measures taken by TxDOT to mitigate concerns on SH 361:

- * Deployment of five portable message signs, four

equipped with cameras which allow the public to view road conditions in real time. The cameras can be viewed at DriveTexas.org

- * Placement of six electronic signs that inform motorists of their speed and remind them of the speed limit.

Contact Rickey Dailey at rickey.dailey@txdot.gov or (361) 808-2544.

The Texas Department of Transportation is responsible for maintaining 80,000 miles of road and for supporting aviation, maritime, rail and public transportation across the state.

Connecting You with Texas
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Why don't you have papers at HEB Waldron anymore?

Editor's note: The rack that we rented to distribute papers at the location was removed at the request of HEB management. We now distribute at Wind & Wave Watersports and Beach Ball Brewing both at the corner of SPID and Laguna Shores Road. We will resume distribution at the HEB store if we receive permission.



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Climate Change, Padre, and the Bluff

We know that climate change is causing the earth to get hotter which in turn causes the earth's ice to melt faster, the result being higher tides. In the event of a hurricane higher tides cause more damage, which means that the damage can be reduced if proper measures are taken before a hurricane comes ashore. Like installing barriers in certain places that will be affected.

I doubt that a hurricane would damage any major highways or roads on Padre, but it might. Not so in the Bluff, along most of Laguna Shore Road. That road was raised quite a bit a few years ago because high tides were making part of the road to be underwater and some barriers were installed on the Laguna side of the road which will help a lot. But it's possible it will not be

enough in the event of a storm in this area.

If additional chunks of concrete were dumped alongside the road it would help, no doubt cause less damage. There are a lot of chunks of concrete in the city that could be used, at little cost because there is no place to dispose of them. Hopefully the city council might put it on their agenda since we are already in the hurricane season.

Did you know that the more fish you catch it increases your bragging rights and causes old timers to live longer, especially when catching a trophy fish. I am pretty sure that Padre Island is the most visited vacation spot on the coast of Texas.

Bobbie Kimbrell

361 cont. from A1

the Texas Legislature that begins in January 2027.

An official with the Corpus Christi Metropolitan Planning Organization said this week that organization is also working to find ways to improve SH 361 as well as the stretch of SPID between the SH 361-SPID intersection and the base of the JFK Bridge where \$17.3 million is available to imple-

ment the Island Mobility Plan which was approved by the Corpus Christi City Council. Aside from the roadway that plan also calls for the development of pedestrian and cart paths to connect Island neighborhoods west of SPID to the Lake Padre area and gulf beaches with passage under the Don Patricio Bridge.



Hwy 361 looking South by the Island in the Son Church. Aerial by Augs



Pickleball and Tennis courts in progress on Padre Island at Commodores Park and Whitecap NPI. They will be open to the public soon!

Moon Monkeys



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Riley P. Dog
About the Island Moon
The Island Moon is published every Thursday, Dale Rankin, Editor / Publisher.

Total circulation is 10,000 copies. Free distribution of 6,000 copies in over 50 Padre Island businesses and condos, as well as 600 copies distributed in Flour Bluff, 1,400 copies on Mustang Island and Port Aransas businesses.

News articles, photos, display ads, classified ads, payments, etc. may be left at the Moon Office.

The Island Moon Newspaper

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Stuff I Heard on the Island



By Dale Rankin

The passing of Dolly Parton this week reminded me of a Saturday afternoon sometime in the 1970s when the Porter Wagoner show rolled into town. The stage for the show was set up in the rotunda of the Padre Staples Mall, now La Palmera, and Wagoner's bus was driven right into the mall and parked right behind the stage.

You couldn't live in Corpus Christi in the 1970s and not know who Porter Wagoner and Dolly Parton were as the show aired weekly in the market, along with a show by a local furniture store Heads Furniture Center which featured Colonel Head and the Headsmen along with his "beautiful wife Ms. Martha Lynn." There was also a fellow named Les Feldser who had an earworm jingle – "If you didn't buy it from Les Feldser you paid too much!"

Between Wagoner, Hee Haw and the gaggle of local business people on the air we had plenty of our share or countrified warblers along with Al Dean and the All Stars – Cotton Eyed Joe and the Schottische – to polish belt buckles from the Yellow Rose Ballroom to the Round Up in Skidmore - Sandy and the Six Pack - but watch out for those empty cans they could be spit cups!

So when Porter Wagoner and Dolly rolled into town I was front and center trying

to get a look inside the bus when all of a sudden out came a brown-haired lady in blue jeans who walked down the mall, I figured she must have been an employee or maybe a backup singer as she disappeared unnoticed into the mall crowd. It wasn't until the show started and I looked up and saw Dolly Parton on stage that I realized the brown-haired lady was in fact Dolly herself without the blonde wig and rhinestone outfit. It was like seeing Clarabell the Clown without his makeup!

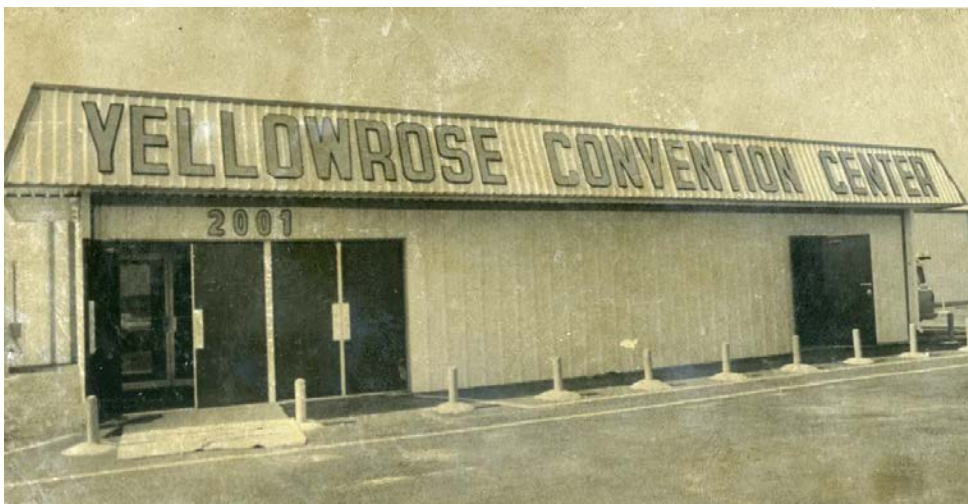
I never saw either Porter Wagoner nor Dolly again after that and a few years later they split up the act. I don't remember anything about the show that day except I thought it was kind of weird to have a county music show in the mall in the middle of the day and that they drove the bus right into the mall.

Now the Yellow Rose is gone and I think the Round Up is back to being a horse track but still burned into my brain is the image of Dolly with brown hair which sticks with me after all these years. Maybe it created some kind of personal childhood trauma which would explain a lot that has happened since.

But at least we still got Willie.



Dolly performing in Corpus Christi.



The Yellow Rose - Then and Now



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The Port A Cookbook



By Chris Jordan

By the time the rest of the family started rolling into camp, I had a little stringer of various fish I'd caught on nothing but a brand-new, shiny, gold-plated Eagle Claw hook. Bare, mind you — no bait. Anticipating catching a few grasshoppers for bait, I'd rigged my line with a single clear bobber three feet from the hook. This worked great with a chunky grasshopper floating on the surface. Without the grasshopper, I choked the bobber down closer to the hook so it'd stay off the bottom. There are so many potential factors that could explain these famished fish. It was mid-June and the Nueces River Canyon had just had some good rain. Maybe some populations had been pool-trapped over the winter. Maybe there were aggressive species present and competition was the explanation — I did have a couple of sunfish on the stringer. There's no telling, really.

Each family had an RV — all humble trailers except for Uncle Jack, who preferred a quaint motorhome. Overall, these family camping trips were fairly low-key. We were polite and considerate patrons of the land: no ATVs or any of that ilk of bullshit. We didn't even have a generator. It was never even on our radar. These places we camped were mostly just owned by someone we were somehow acquainted with. Mostly not even really proper campgrounds. Sometimes, it was a deer lease in the off-season. Sometimes we were simply at a spot on the river behind a nice old lady's house — like we were this time at Mrs. Sweeten's. For us it was a retreat from daily life. The rowdiest thing we did was play poker under one of those yellow lights that are supposed to attract fewer flying insects. Just like the house poker rules, the light bulb's effectiveness was hotly debated.

As more of the clan arrived, a fervor began to arise in most everyone over the impossibly good fishing. I'd already been harboring a tinge of guilt over my full stringer, and all these fish-greedy nuts I called family only intensified my lament. Aunts, uncles, and cousins were all clamoring to dig out their fishing gear as if the fish were just passing through. There was a proper fracas unfolding before me, and at almost eleven years old, I didn't necessarily have the standing to call a meeting to order, especially since my swimwear for the season was somehow a bright green speedo from J.C. Penney. I felt very naked wearing it and was mortified every second. It was the real-life version of that dream we all have. Still, I did my best. In the end, we agreed on two principles for this extraordinary fish sitch: 1) use only live, wild-caught bait and 2) we'd only keep enough for one modest fish fry and then strictly catch-and-release after that.

Working under the imposition of catching wild bait really slowed us down versus just tossing a shiny hook onto the water. There were plenty of grassy areas to hunt grasshoppers. You could use a butterfly net, a tennis racket, or just a large swath of grass. The winning technique presents a paradox: you have to be fast enough to beat the critters' evasive hop, and gentle enough to not hurt them. A dead or maimed grasshopper might attract a fish, but a live one wriggling around in between hop attempts on the surface of a Hill Country river is as good as it gets.

Under a Rock, Part II

I opted for a bait that was a little harder to come by and a little more familiar to the fishies: crawdads. If you turned over enough rocks on the riverbed, some of them would turn out to be the roof of a crawdad burrow. The Nueces was running good and swift and the water was up a little. The stretch we were on was mostly rapids with a hole upstream and down. I didn't have any snorkel gear, so the holes weren't of much use to me. Too bad, because that's where the crawdads would be. And the fish, too. I turned over a rock in the shallower, gentle rapids and felt a pinch on my hand. My first thought was that it was odd for a crawdad to cling to the underside of a rock. They were always just sitting there in their little grotto on the riverbed, momentarily quite surprised their roof was gone before they launched themselves backwards under another rock. When I turned that rock over in my hand, lo and behold I was getting bitten by some kind of aquatic centipede.



A hellgrammite, the aquatic larva of the Dobsonfly

Uncle David was one of those people who just knew stuff. And while some of his trivial claims were groan-worthy, mostly he knew what he was talking about. And he was 100% right when he identified my newfound specimen as a hellgrammite, the larval stage of the Dobsonfly. There turned out to be one literally under every rock. And fish LOVED them. Grasshoppers? Pfft. Crawdads? Meh. And you didn't even need to worry over your bait situation: there it was right when and where you needed it under a nearby rock. Where had this bait been all my life?

By the time I realized I should've kept this bait-boon to myself, it was too late. Everyone hopped on the hellgrammite wagon and the fish stood less of a chance than they did before. Half a dozen fisherpersons spanning age and gender was quite the sight: turn over a rock, bait the hook, catch a fish. I don't recall us ever having a fish fry the very first night at camp before. It was decided we'd leave the fish alone for the rest of the trip except for the catfish. They weren't part of the daytime feeding frenzy the rest of the river's denizens were.

The river was a bit of a hazard right where we had access to it. We had to run a rope across it so my grandparents could ford it. We did have another fish fry of strictly catfish we'd caught on limb lines. Other than that, not much happened—until Dad got stung on the big toe by a ginormous scorpion that had taken up residence in one of his loafers overnight. It was hard to see a grown-up man in that much pain. He was in bad shape, but I'd have gladly taken the scorpion sting and had Pops wear that damned speedo.



The Texas Cave Scorpion

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History cont. from A1

where the eye wall had passed over Mustang Island. As we approached Fire Station 16 about halfway to Port Aransas there was evidence that water had been about six feet over the road and was moving fast enough that it knocked down utility poles and entire fields of grass on its way back to the gulf. On Padre the most severe damage was to west-facing bulkheads at the end of fingertip streets and to the Packery Channel Jetties. Most Padre canals got about six feet of water as it tried to find its way from the Laguna Madre to the gulf. But in Port Aransas the water piled up behind the dunes as it tried to drain through the access roads and in some places the water line twelve feet above the street showed the high water mark. Every hurricane is different and Harvey was a slow-moving storm that left those who rode it out sheltered for more than twelve hours. Padre Island was on the clean side of the storm and the wind was primarily offshore. The same was largely true in Port Aransas but the wind shifted as the eye passed over. Much of the story of Hurricane Harvey was the aftermath of the storm over the next several years as large portions of Port Aransas were rebuilt with homes very different from those they replaced. Many long-time residents who could not afford to rebuild sold their lots and the new owners most often

built short-term rental properties. Port Aransas made the decision before Harvey not to build new high-rise residential buildings along the beachfront and as the demand for overnight stay increased rather than adding vertical lodging the “hotel” rooms instead spread out through the city after Harvey resulting in the heavy summer traffic throughout the city we see today. For the most part Padre Island came through the storm unscathed – with some exceptions – but Hurricane Harvey changed Port Aransas forever.



Damage to Clines landing



Metal buildings did not fare well



Snoopy's Pier took a hit but Ernie Buttler had it back up and running in a few weeks.

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Damage to the exterior of the Sandpiper Condos



Spanky's Liquor on Alister was destroyed, but some shelves with supplies stayed intact.



A house on Whitecap Blvd. caught fire during the storm.



Port Aransas City Marina took a direct hit from Harvey.



The Emergency Operations Center was in full bloom during and after the storm.

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The inside of Island Italian.

Island Outdoors

On the Rocks

By Jay Gardner

The end of summer update

Council was the usual squirrel cage the other day, but we got an update on using the Barney Davis to construct a desal plant on their grounds out there. I’m happy to see that CPS Energy (out of San Antonio, who owns the power plant these days) are coming to the table to talk to CC Water about a plant, instead of just flat out saying “no”. Now, that being said, the negotiations have started off a little rough. CPS is willing to lease the land to the city, which may be an expense that could blow the whole deal right out of the water, depending on how expensive they consider that real estate to be. I have a feeling that will be a sliding scale based on what else it takes to get something going out there.

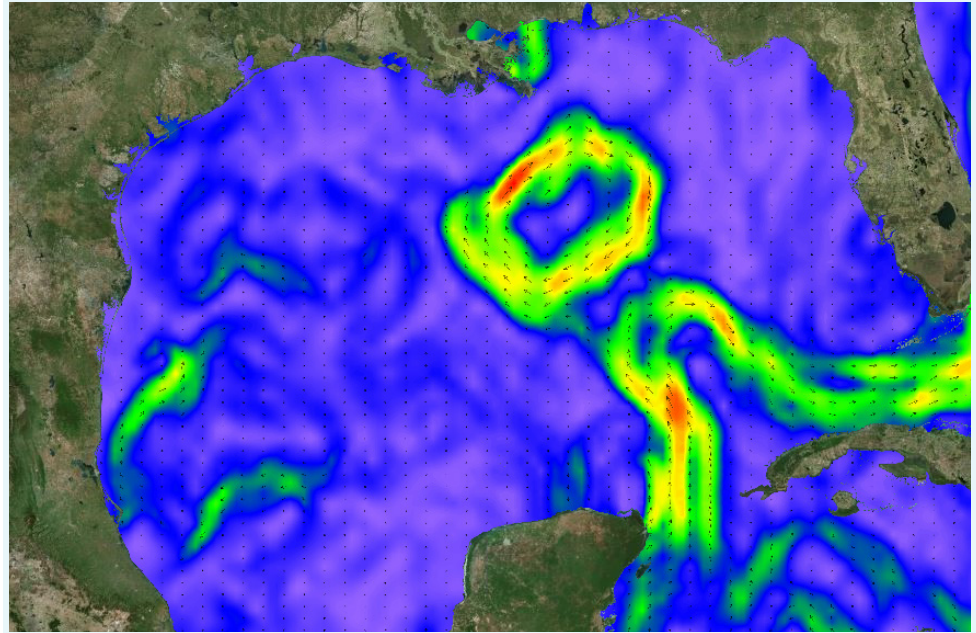
Good news was that they have 150 million gallons a day (MGD) of intake from the Laguna Madre that they’re not using within their permit. And maybe that’s not good news if you’re a tiny crab, shrimp, or fish larvae who can’t swim against the current. That also translates into another hurdle as they don’t have a brine water discharge, so that would have to be a new permit with TCEQ and everyone. We would want to discharge offshore anyway, so that would have to be a new process. In addition, permitting with the Army Corps of Engineers was mentioned as far as both the discharge and jurisdictional wetlands (although I could provide alternatives to the latter aspect). CPS would not directly provide power, but there is an AEP substation on the grounds. More hidden charges, and we’ll see how long this deal goes before it comes off the tracks, but hope I’m wrong.

One thing going for that location is that there is a 32” water line at the corner of Yorktown and Flour Bluff drive that feeds the new water tower. Reaching the existing infrastructure with new sources keeps costs down. Speaking of a new 32” water line, that is what is being constructed along Flour Bluff drive these days that will eventually go down either Don Patricio or Graham and then eventually head off across the Laguna to the Island as a new main waterline. This is Phase I of that project.

We had Representative Todd Hunter on the Island Moon radio show last week (happy birthday Todd!) and one of the things that was mentioned was the wetlands in the bar ditches along Hwy 361 that might cause an issue with the Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) permitting when they go to expand the width of the road. The wetlands have been deemed jurisdictional in the past, but I think that those should probably be revisited. There have been several rule changes over the past few years, and they may not be all jurisdictional these days which would require mitigation. I suggest a plan of simply relocating the ditches on the west side of the road, away from the utilities. Someone will have to arrange the easements, but that will be a lot cheaper than going underground with concrete culverts for 16 miles.

The beach is starting to shape up, but it is moving painfully slow. At least the water levels have dropped to normal summer lows, and driving is possible on the low road again. The water clarity is still a 5 out of 10 but hopefully should be clearing up on the backside of this full moon. The stupid upwelling just won’t seem to go away, which has some cooler water temperatures and dirty water still lingering around the farther south you drive. I slipped out to the north sticks the other evening just to take a look around, and there were tons of bait in the wade gut, but nothing blowing them up.

Well folks, we are starting to slide into the crescendo of summer, as the mornings have been marked with a slight southwest wind out of the Wild Horse Desert. We still have mucho caliente days ahead of us, but we’re at the top of the hill. It always brings lower humidity, and the dryer air feels nice, but it also carries a form of dust which sets my allergies off every year. Another few weeks and it will be go-time. This year’s calendar is weird, with dove season actually opening next Tuesday (don’t forget to get those new hunting and fishing licenses!) with Labor Day weekend the weekend after. Drop me a line at jaygardner1032@gmail.com and we’ll see you next week On the Rocks.



The full gyre has calved off the Loop Current...signs of ENSO (El Nino Southern Oscillation) Image from Ripcharts



Sunset at the sticks.

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Backwater Adventures

By Joey Farah

Waiting for the Fall shift



This young man took his first fishing trip ever with his grandfather and caught this great 28” redfish along the side of the ICW Canal. Farah

Well I spent almost a week in Costa Rica, playing surf tourist! What a fabulous place, I spent my time in a small fishing and surfing village. The people were kind and welcoming all over the country, the food; waves, beach and wildlife were exceptional. I returned home with a new love of a distant place, and an appreciation of HOME.

We have an opportunity to be proud of our home here on Padre Island. There is no litter there; here we let folks trash our beaches, drive tractors moving sand back and forth so that not even a sand crab can live along the ocean. It was sickening to walk upon the beach at North Pac the first morning back and watch a thousand dollars be spent on flipping sand back and forth for no reason. Where a fertile beach full of life once stood is a bare ass parking lot of smashed sand. This has to stop, why we let our county, city, and state burn money at nature’s feet. I hope that the people that love this place can get together and do something about it. It’s been going on for so many years, reshaping our coastline. The almighty dollar spreads farther than hand to hand on this one.

Back to fishing! We are still waiting for our first tropical push of tide to deliver all of that beautiful blue water into our

bay systems. It is flirting back and forth in and out of the Gulf Passes. Seas have been flat, boats have been exploring offshore, beach fishing is crazy good right now, and Bob Hall is back to a great family fishing spot. The Bay fishing has been incredible for those following the baitfish into deeper water with the low tides. Focus on shallow flats that are filled with bait pulled off of dry shallow areas. This has been an exciting place to be floating topwater plugs at dawn! The east side of Baffin Bay will yield miles of shallow flats full of redfish and trout gathered just off of the flats too shallow for bait to hide. The main channel running north and south is the ICW, this channel offers fresh tidal flow and deep water. This is the coolest and most consistent place for mature gamefish to live right now during the extreme summer conditions. Working the edge of the channel with soft plastics has been incredible. Start around the spoil islands around Bird Island and work your way south.

I’ve been out of whack on days and time since I returned so MY MOON MONKEYS ARE WAITING FOR MY LAST MINUTE ARTICLE! Gotta go! Tune in next week for whatever is happening on the water! Follow all of our catches on Facebook at Joey Farah’s Backwater Fishing!

[361-442-8145](tel:361-442-8145)



Mr Rusty caught Jewel of a Trout along the edge of the ICW Canal this week during a low tide. Farah

Nature Notes

The Comings and Goings of Migration



Piping Plovers are one of the many species that you might see popping up on the Texas Coast during the fall. Photo by Michael Gray

By Martin Hagne

Neotropical bird migration started eons ago, with tropical birds slowly following the melting ice mass over land, looking for more food and habitat further north. Eventually it developed into today's bird migration going south for the winter, and back north for the summer. So truly our migratory birds we see here in summer, aren't really "ours" after all. Not entirely anyhow.

Birds are fascinating in so many ways, including the amazing flights they take during migration. Tiny little birds weighing hardly anything, flying for days and weeks, some without even landing for breaks! There are many variations of routes, and timing of migration between the many species. There are also some major differences between spring migration, and fall migration, beside one going north and one south. Let's take a look at a few of those differences, especially for songbirds.

First of all, spring migration is a race to claim the best nesting spots! It happens over a much shorter time frame than fall migration. Here on the Texas coast and inland, we start seeing songbirds in the later parts of March, and it's pretty much over with by mid-May. The heaviest migrations happen late April through early May. We see mostly males heading north first, followed then by females, and lastly the younger birds. Within the species, the males are in a hurry to head north to look for suitable habitat to claim the best breeding territory, and start singing their best tunes to impress the girls once they arrive.

The southbound fall migration is a much more spread-out affair. Some shorebirds start in early July, or even earlier, with songbirds still pushing south as late as early December. So, there is no real defined giant songbird push like in spring. Birds are not in such a hurry to reach their wintering ground and they can take their time, making for a safer flight.

Along with the difference in urgency, there are also differences between spring versus fall flight routes. Due to birds being in a hurry going north, many of them fly over the entire Gulf in one flight. Leaving the Yucatan peninsula after a few days of fattening up, they take an 18–25 hour flight, against the odds of bad weather. Getting north fast apparently outweighs the risk, which is high. Exhausted birds may drop in at any coastal location with some habitat, to rest, and find water and food, and soon continue their journey. Many never make it to their destinations, due to bad weather pushing against them. If they land in the ocean, they don't get back up, and can often become shark food!

In the fall, without the need of such a hurry, many bird species chose to fly around the Gulf, taking their time, stopping here and there for rest and food. This adds many days, or even several weeks, to their migration, but they will still reach their wintering grounds in plenty of time.

Migration truly is a very intricate and special natural process, and Gulf Coast Bird Observatory here in Lake Jackson has been helping study it for 30 years now! There is still so much more to learn about birds and their migrations, and we are excited to continue researching them.

Beachcombing Report

By Jace Tunnell

Keeled Earless Lizard



Jace on the beach with a Keeled Earless Lizard

I spent nearly 30 minutes chasing one of the fastest little creatures on the Texas coast. By the time I finally caught a keeled earless lizard, I was covered head to toe in fine, powdery sand that clung to me for the rest of the day. It was well worth the effort.

Despite its name, the keeled earless lizard does have ears. It simply lacks the large external ear openings that most lizards have, giving it the appearance of being earless. Found only in Texas and northeastern Mexico, it's a true regional specialty and one of the most fascinating animals you might encounter while exploring our coastal dunes.

These lizards are masters of camouflage. Their tan, gray, and brown colors blend perfectly with the sand and sparse dune vegetation. They'll sprint across open sand at remarkable speed, then suddenly freeze with their heads raised, scanning for insects or predators. If you blink, they seem to vanish right before your eyes.

Their rough, textured scales, each with a raised ridge called a keel, give the species its name. They're active during the day, relying on excellent eyesight to hunt ants, beetles, grasshoppers, spiders, flies, and oth-

er small invertebrates. Rather than climbing, they spend nearly all of their lives racing across open ground. If a predator manages to grab one, it can even shed its tail to make a quick escape.

The barrier island's sandy dunes provide excellent habitat for these harmless little reptiles. Unfortunately, development, dune disturbance, and invasive plants can reduce the open sandy areas they depend on to survive.

So the next time you're walking at the base of the dunes, keep an eye out for a tiny lizard making a lightning-fast dash across the sand before freezing in place. If you spot one, you've just discovered one of the Gulf Coast's best hidden treasures.

Jace Tunnell is the Director of Community Engagement for the Harte Research Institute at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. His Beachcombing series appears in newspapers, as a weekly video on YouTube and KEDT PBS, and as a weekly feature on KEDT NPR. Follow Jace at [harterresearch.org](#), Facebook ([@harterresearch](#)) and Instagram ([@harterresearch](#)).



A Keeled Earless Lizard in the sand



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Rentals cont. from A1

locations, as called for in the 2022 ordinance, due to lack of calls from the public and instead police officers have been thrust into the role of enforcement STR rules. “Our officers have sound meters to enforce the city noise ordinance,” Police Chief Mike Markel told the council Tuesday. “But when we get there we often find that the noise levels don’t exceed the maximum limit.” An additional problem is that the number of guests that can be accommodated in a given STR house is “self-determined” by the property owner. The capacity of a STR unit is determined by the property owner when filing for the \$250 per year STR permit and the capacity is often inflated by including the square footage of garages, kitchens, and out buildings as “residential” space. There are also no provisions in the city zoning for STR that limits the number of vehicles that can be parked at a given residence as long as they are legally parked on the street. The city staff told the council Tuesday they are working to implement the International Property Maintenance Code beginning in January 2027 which would address both of those issues. The ordinance

The ordinance adopted in 2022 divides STR into two types. Type 1 requires that the person listed as the homesteaded owner of the property be present at the home while renters are there. But over time some owners have skirted this provision by leasing their property to a single renter who then rents it short-term and city regulators have allowed this process to happen even though it is in direct violation of the language in the ordinance, according to information presented by John Bell, attorney for the homeowners who complained to the city. Type 2 is a STR unit that has a registered manager who must have a phone number registered with the city and answer calls twenty-four hours per day. Once notified the registered manager has one hour to fix the problem or face a \$500 per-day fine. The plan calls for a neighbor with a complaint to call the city STR hotline and the operator there calls the registered owner which starts the one-hour clock running – the problem

being there is currently no hotline to call. The city staff told the council starting in 2022 the city’s enforcement called for city staff to lease unregistered STR units, usually at about \$150 per night, before they could prosecute the owners for operating unlicensed units. That process became expensive since the \$150 fee was not recoverable. Revenue from the licensing of STR units is now \$320,000 per year, according to city figures, down from about \$500,000 per year when the ordinance took effect. The council on Tuesday moved to freeze new applications for Type 1 STR units until November when the matter is expected to come back the council for an anticipated overhaul of the STR ordinance. The council on Tuesday was originally going to alter the original 2022 STR ordinance however, that approach was tabled and is expected to come back to the council for review in November.

What is means for The Island

In 2022 there was a drawn out discussion about whether to allow STR in Island neighborhoods. There was a push from the Coastal Bend Association of Realtors Corpus Christi Realtors to force STR in residential neighborhoods on Padre Island. When the final ordinance was drafted it prohibited STR in Island neighborhoods zone RS-6, which were already not allowed under the old rules, but it did not effect STR units in multi-family buildings as long as the building’s property owners association allows it, and those rules remain in effect today. So on Tuesday the council put a moratorium on any new Type 1 permits until at least November when a review of the entire process will be done.

Based on Tuesday’s council discussion the city is likely to consider using zoning rules to enforce parking, unit capacity, and noise violations rather than solely the STR ordinance as is currently the case. That change would allow enforcement through zoning rules rather than through the STR ordinance as is now the case.

There was no council discussion about removing the restriction on STR in Island neighborhoods.

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Fifteen Years ago in Whitecap Beach had a pet blessing ceremony.

Diggers, car chasers, snarlers, biters, jumpers, growlers, runners, scratchers, barkers, stinkers, whiners, beggars, and carpet soilers take notice all were blessed by Rev. Rick Mills from Island Presbyterian

on Whitecap Beach.

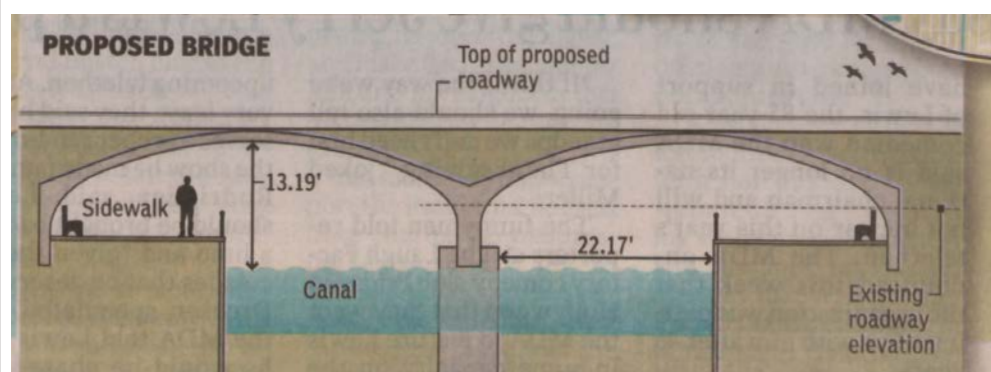
Fifteen Years ago this week in the Moon



Tony Amos held a turtle release from the ARK in Port Aransas.



Fifteen years ago this week South Texas was in a drought and Tropical Storm Don looked like it would bring rain to The Island and news crews from around the country descended. But in the end Don brought less than one inch of rain but it did give surfers good waves for two days.



The original design of the Don Patricio Bridge in 2011. The first plan called for two arches with the main support column in the center of the channel. The center support column meant the waterway under the bridge was split and almost half of the \$11 million estimated cost of the bridge was construction of the column. As a result the design was changed to the three arch design in place today with a 44-foot wide water way and 14 feet of clearance above the waterline.

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Island Crossword

Crossword Solution on classifieds page

Sudoku answers are not available.

Play at your own risk!

Going Easy On You...

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

Knuckle-Cracker

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7	1	3			8	6	5
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6		7	4		5		
	4		7				

Mind-Numbing Frustration

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

Brain-Buster

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

Across

1. Socialite Maxwell
5. Kind of citizen or personality
9. Computer programmer, e.g.
14. Relax lazily
15. Cold capital
16. Band together
17. Phone convenience
19. Adult wannabes
20. Getaway
21. Lance of L.A. law
23. Make lace
24. Trickle
25. Office groups
27. Anti-fascist leftist alliance
32. Rooked
35. In-box item
36. Celebratory meal
37. Diabolic
39. Prepare to score
42. Monterrey munchie
43. Courage
45. Cathedral feature
47. Wild blue yonder
48. Jazz Age innovation
52. Some landscaping equipment
53. Exorcism target
57. "Just a ___"
59. Slugging stat
60. Sullen
61. Drug enforcer
63. Work crew supervisor
66. Use beneficially
67. Uniform
68. Reword
69. Hibiscus feature
70. Trustworthy
71. Deli choices

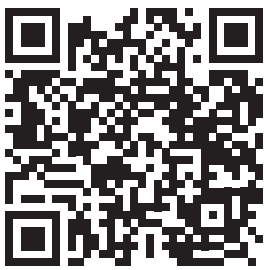
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57	58			59					60					
61			62			63	64	65						
66						67					68			
69						70					71			

Down

1. Woodland sprites	22. Smoke residue	46. Provide financial
2. Baggy	25. Catchwords	backing
3. Golfer's goof	26. Agonize	49. Budding socialite
4. Creator of Dogpatch	28. Favorite, as a	50. Pops up
5. It prevents rain-outs	theory	51. Marketer to new
6. IMF member	29. "Pulp Fiction"	moms
7. U.N. Messenger of	actress Thurman	54. Temperamental
Peace	30. It may be braced	55. "Cotton Comes to
8. Humbert Humbert's	31. Ancient fortified	Harlem" director Davis
temptress	city	56. Some tree houses
9. Shortened jeans	32. Takes up, in a way	57. NFL center's
10. Air Force follower	33. Admit openly	responsibility
11. Most are sugar-free	34. Strom Thurmond,	58. Water drainer
12. Italian hot spot	notably	60. Horsehair supplier
13. Word with chin or	38. "Swedish	62. KGB counterpart
head	nightingale"	64. U.S. corp. with a lot
18. Salt variety	40. Scanning target,	of power?
	briefly	65. Court arbiter
	41. Omega preceder	
	44. Chinese hors	
	d'oeuvre	

Island Moon Live

Our Thursday radio show is on 1440 KEYS and 98.7 fm as well as streamed live on YouTube and Facebook! We record the show on Thursdays live from 11 am to 1 pm. We have an enormous amount of different friends and guests, telling stories about how the Island used to be, and where we are heading. All of the videos are free to watch, and can be found on YouTube at Island Moon Live via this QR Code.



Live Streams



Island Real Estate Roundup



Apryl Noles

Moving into the Autumn market

As we approach the end of August, the Padre Island real estate market is showing encouraging activity as we prepare to transition into the fall market. This time of year often brings a shift in our buyer pool, with more local buyers beginning to make moves—whether relocating within the area, upsizing into a larger home, or taking advantage of opportunities as the summer season winds down.

August appears to be finishing on a strong and steady note. In the detached home sector, three properties entered the option period and three successfully closed. The condominium sector also saw solid movement, with two properties entering the option period and two closing. In the townhome sector, two properties entered the option period this week.

As we head into the final week of August and the beginning of our fall market, it will be interesting to see whether this momentum continues and how local buyer activity impacts the Island market. Here you'll find a detailed look at this week's Padre Island real estate statistics. Stay tuned for next week's update as we close out August and officially head into the fall market.

Detached Homes In Option Period:
-15342 Cartagena Ct (Listed for \$1,199,900)
-13907 Sea Horse Ave (Listed for \$639,000)
-15830 Almeria Ave (Listed for \$399,900)

Detached Homes That Sold:
 -14002 Coquina Bay Ave (Listed for \$700,000)
 -13704 Suntan Ave (Listed for \$674,000)
 -15661 Three Fathoms Bank Drive (Listed for \$514,500)

Condominiums In Option Period:
-14810 Windward Dr Unit 416 (Listed for \$459,000)
-15005 Windward Dr Unit 214 (Listed for \$183,900)

Condominiums That Sold:
-14300 Aloha St Unit 138 (Listed for \$275,000)
-14300 S Padre Island Dr Unit 74 (Listed for \$79,900)

Townhomes In Option Period:
-15326 Cruiser St Unit A (Listed for \$325,000)
-15104 Dory Dr (Listed for \$260,000)

E	L	S	A		D	U	A	L		C	O	D	E	R
L	O	L	L		O	S	L	O		U	N	I	T	E
V	O	I	C	E	M	A	I	L		T	E	E	N	S
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P	E	T	A	L		S	A	F	E		R	Y	E	S

Thoughts from Reverend Ken

By Rev. Dr. Ken



“Who do you say that I am?”

Someone once described the average Christian today as a person dressed in a deep-sea diving suit. With the mask firmly in place, said Christian marches resolutely into the bathroom to pull the plug out of the bathtub! That may or may not be fair to the average Christian. However, it is easy to think we are truly following Jesus, only to be tackling the inane, or worse, shouting an unhinged moralism at others, while inequity and cruelty rampage.

After Jesus asked the question, “Who do you say that I am?” He followed that question with comments about self-denial, cross-bearing, following his ways. How do we talk about self-denial and cross-bearing in a culture where we can buy Coke cans with our names on them?

We might think that to be a Christian means we have accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior. This then calls us to live a life focused upon personal piety, being a good citizen, community member, and church person. However, this is too limited and shallow.

It is not enough to say that Jesus is the Messiah. We must also experience the difference it is making to our everyday lives, beyond the assurance of heaven and the great by and by. Are our lives marked by selfless love towards stranger and enemy? Are we feeding the hungry? Are we caring for the most vulnerable in our community? Are we affirming diversity and working towards equity and peace? Are we people of mercy?

Jesus does not want to be accepted into anyone’s life. This implies a partnership, as if Jesus is our co-pilot. It describes something that is safe, tame, manageable, functional. It is merely something added to life amongst the many other things and people, activities and duties we juggle and manage.

Jesus wants to take over our lives. This is what it means to live the question, “Who do you say that I am?”

Our culture unabashedly proclaims that we must follow and protect our own self-interest. Lines blur between needs and wants. Fear and anxiety become clubs that keep us focused on me and my tribe, my group, my team. Soon we are trying to win, rather than love, defeat others rather than lift them up.

To follow Jesus is to move beyond the calculus of power and influence, consumption and

self-focus. Following Jesus will bear little resemblance to the commercials and pop-up ads that spoon feed us each day.

Self-denial does not ignore that we have legitimate needs and justifiable wants. Rather self-denial transfers trust from I to Christ. It is trusting that Christ’s grace is sufficient, that God’s love ensures a place for us in God’s kingdom, that our daily bread will given.

Self-denial has plenty to do with contentment and simplicity. We are invited to let go of our places of privilege, turn away from our accumulation mentality. We embrace simple living and generous giving. We are content with what we have, not with what we do not have.

Bearing our cross involves sacrificial love and care for others. Jesus did not have to seek the cross. It was occasioned to him by those whom his insistent mission of compassion and love gave offense. All of us have struggles in life, of one kind or another. Yet, these are not our crosses to bear. Unless these struggles are the result of choosing selfless love, acting out against injustice, or speaking truth to power.

The path of Jesus is a path of love. It’s the path we follow in our relationships and as we address the important issues in our lives and of our day. It’s the path that listens to the cries of the oppressed, that seeks to quiet the drumbeats of war and violence, that shares mercy with all and builds community that welcomes and affirms.

Beach worship continues this Sunday, as we continue our sermon series, “Understanding Revelation.” 8 am on Whitecap Beach at the end of Whitecap Blvd. Bring a chair! There is a place for you! Let’s understand Revelation together.

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.

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Senior moments Special to the Island Moon



By Dotson Lewis

The Purple Heart

Dotson’s Note: The Purple Heart is a United States military decoration awarded in the name of the president to those wounded or killed while serving on or after 5 April 1917, with the U.S. military. With its forerunner, the Badge of Military Merit, which took the form of a heart made of purple cloth, the Purple Heart is the oldest military award still given to U.S. military members. The National Purple Heart Hall of Honor is located in New Windsor, New York. Thanks to my friend Lloyd Niederriter who has **THREE PURPLE HEARTS**, for many of the facts contained in this report.



Sign on Interstate 35 designating the Purple Heart Trail.

The original Purple Heart, designated as the Badge of Military Merit, was established by George Washington – then the commander-in-chief of the Continental Army – by order from his Newburgh, New York, headquarters on 7 August 1782. The Badge of Military Merit was only awarded to three Revolutionary War soldiers by Washington himself. Washington authorized his subordinate officers to issue Badges of Merit as appropriate. Although never abolished, the award of the badge was not proposed again officially until after World War I.

On 10 October 1927, Army Chief of Staff General Charles Pelot Summerall directed that a draft bill be sent to Congress «to revive the Badge of Military Merit». The bill was withdrawn and action on the case ceased on 3 January 1928, but the office of the Adjutant General was instructed to file all materials collected for possible future use. A number of private interests sought to have the medal re-instituted in the Army; this included the board of directors of the Fort Ticonderoga Museum in Ticonderoga, New York.

On 7 January 1931, Summerall’s successor, General Douglas MacArthur, confidentially reopened work on a new design, involving the Washington Commission of Fine Arts. Elizabeth Will, an Army heraldic specialist in the Office of the Quartermaster General, was named to redesign the newly revived medal, which became known as the Purple Heart. Using general specifications provided to her, Will created the design sketch for the present medal of the Purple Heart. The new design, which exhibits a bust and profile of George Washington, was issued on the bicentennial of Washington’s birth.

The Commission of Fine Arts solicited plaster models from three leading sculptors for the medal, selecting that of John R. Sinnock of the Philadelphia Mint in May 1931. By executive order of the president of the United States, the Purple Heart was revived on the 200th anniversary of George Washington’s birth, out of respect to his memory and military achievements, by War Department General Order No. 3, dated 22 February 1932.

The criteria were announced in a War Department circular dated 22 February 1932, and authorized award to soldiers, upon their request, who had been awarded the Meritorious Service Citation Certificate, Army Wound Ribbon, or were authorized to wear Wound Chevrons subsequent to 5 April 1917, the day before the United States entered World War I. The first Purple Heart was awarded to MacArthur. During the early period of American involvement in World War II (8 December 1941 – 22 September 1943), the Purple Heart was awarded both for wounds received in action against the enemy and for meritorious performance of duty. With the establishment of the Legion of Merit, by an Act of Congress, the practice of awarding the Purple Heart for meritorious service was discontinued. By Executive Order 9277, dated 3 December 1942, the decoration was applied to all services; the order required

reasonable uniform application of the regulations for each of the Services. This executive order also authorized the award only for wounds received. For both military and civilian personnel during the World War II era, to meet eligibility for the Purple Heart, Army Regulation 600–45, dated 22 September 1943, and 3 May 1944, required identification of circumstances.

After the award was re-authorized in 1932 some U.S. Army wounded from conflicts prior to the First World War applied for, and were awarded, the Purple Heart:

... veterans of the Civil War and Indian Wars, as well as the Spanish–American War, China Relief Expedition (Boxer Rebellion), and Philippine Insurrection also were awarded the Purple Heart. This is because the original regulations governing the award of the Purple Heart, published by the Army in 1932, provided that any soldier who had been wounded in any conflict involving U.S. Army personnel might apply for the new medal. There were but two requirements: the applicant had to be alive at the time of application (no posthumous awards were permitted) and he had to prove that he had received a wound that necessitated treatment by a medical officer.

Subject to the approval of the Secretary of Defense, Executive Order 10409, dated 12 February 1952, revised authorizations to include the Service Secretaries. Dated 25 April 1962, Executive Order 11016, included provisions for the posthumous award of the Purple Heart. Dated 23 February 1984, Executive Order 12464, authorized award of the Purple Heart as a result of terrorist attacks, or while serving as part of a peacekeeping force, subsequent to 28 March 1973.

On 13 June 1985, the Senate approved an amendment to the 1985 Defense Authorization Bill, which changed the precedence of the Purple Heart award, from immediately above the Good Conduct Medal to immediately above the Meritorious Service Medals. Public Law 99-145 authorized the award for wounds received as a result of friendly fire. Public Law 104-106 expanded the eligibility date, authorizing the award of the Purple Heart to a former prisoner of war who was wounded after 25 April 1962. The National Defense Authorization Act for the Fiscal Year 1998 (Public Law 105–85) changed the criteria to delete authorization for the award of the Purple Heart to any non-military U.S. national serving under competent authority in any capacity with the Armed Forces. This change was effective 18 May 1998.



Purple Heart Memorial Westland Michigan

Dotson’s Note: In February 2015, the National Defense Authorization Act was amended to include “attacks carried out by individuals or entities in communication with a foreign terrorist organization beforehand and the act was inspired or motivated by the foreign terrorist organization” when considering awarding the Purple Heart medal. Secretary of the Army, John McHugh, announced the change to reflect that several service members would be receiving the medal as a result of the 2009 terror attacks at Fort Hood. This authorization would again be used for the Little Rock Recruiting Office shooting and the NAS Pensacola shooting. It would apparently be used again in 2026 after Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth announced that the two West Virginia National Guard soldiers shot in Washington D.C. would also be awarded the medal.

**THANKS FOR READING AND
THANKS TO LLOYD
FOR HIS SERVICE**

Three Chords and the Truth

By Ronnie Narmour
ronnienarmour@gmail.com

What's in a name?



My view from a van in 2009

I think it's time to have a little fun, shall we? What's in a name? More specifically, what's in a nickname? I wrote this article in a column I had back in 2009 called *View From a Van* when I was living in my van on the beach in Port A. I thought I'd write a little follow-up being that we've lost so many of the players to old age and "moving on". Being that there is no shortage of colorful characters running around our little island, the number of nicknames around here is certainly testimony. In fact, I'd be willing to wager that our per capita ratio is right up there with a **Barnum** and **Bailey** traveling camp. So with the help of Facebook and a whole lot of friends, I was able to put a face with 80+ nicknamed residents of Port A or there about. But we got rules...

We got rules...

There appears to be several distinct categories here. There's the "nicknamed for what you do" category such as **Pharmacy Bob**, **Side Job Bob** and **Haircut Heidi**. Then there's the "nicknamed for where you are from" category such as **Colorado Bob** RIP and **English Steve**. There's the "nicknamed for physical attributes" category such as **Little John** and **One Eyed Tim**. And finally, there's the "it's just your nickname" category. This category, I suppose, was handed down from the Native Americans who would name their children after whatever was going on at the time (like **Running Possum** and **Little Road Kill**). In this category you'll find such nicknames such as **Jimmy Jam**, **Pooch** and **Johnny Tsunami**. My old bass playing blues promoter pal from Austin, **Little Eddie Spaghetti** and blues singer **Mathew Robinson** gave me my nickname, **Ronyea** 30 years ago and it stuck. Be advised, this category doesn't have to make a whole lot of sense.



Ronyea with Little Eddie & blues singer Mathew Robinson (1997)

Without further adieu ...

So, without further adieu, here is the list of nicknamed Islanders that I came up with in no particular order: **Animal Paul**, **Rabbit**, **Tree**, **Bicycle Mark**, **Dry Wall Dave**, **Big Bitch Kathy**, **Little Bitch Kitty**, **Beedle**, **Tow Truck Mark**, **Boo**, **Poo**, **Clydesdale**, **Freaky G**, **Brown Robin**, **White Robin**, **Fish**, **Surfer Ted**, **Surfer Mike**, **Cat Man Bob**, **Foxie Roxie**, **Hobbit**, **Grandpa Sonny**, **Betty Bail Bond**, **Crying Allen**, **Groovy Tom**, **Thumper**, **Barefoot Miguel**, **Handy Andy**, **Pink Carrie**, **JJ**, **KK**, **Brownie**, **Smiley**, **Johnny Bravo**, **Bingo Man**, **Charlie Girl**, **Trimmin' Tim**, **Catfish Hunter**, **Gummy Mike**, **Boynk**, **Flipper**, **Mama Kat**, **Tom Tom**, **J5**, **Harmonica Bob**, **Monkey Toes JP**, **Steve the Plumber**, **Olive**, **Johnny Boy**, **Massage Kelly**, **Perch**, **Short Dog**, **Pirate Scotty**, **Ranger Rick**, **Proby**, **Texas Tech**, **Rockin'**, **Steve the Plumber**, **Steve the Jeweler**, **Pickle**, **Jammin' Jamin**, **Sushi Dave**, **Thor**, **Poodle**, **Tjoe**, **Beachcomber Jace**, **One Eyed Tim**, **Don't Give a Damn Sam** and last but not least... **Mermaid Gal**.

Bing Fling has flung...



Linda Morgan was flinging bling at Treasure Island last Friday.

There were a ton of parties going on last weekend. The big party was at *Treasure Island* for their annual themed *Beach Bash*. This year the theme was *Bling Fling*, and brother there was bling flinging all over the place. I love their parties at *TI*. In past years they've had such themes as *Rumble in the Jungle*, *Tight and White*, *Disco Cowgirls* and *Rhinestone Cowboys* and *Out of this World*, etc. They had **Splendiferous** playing both Friday and Saturday and they rocked!

On the local front...

All right, it's the end of August, the weather has stalled out at high and dry every day, week after week, schools are back in and we are fast approaching *Labor Day* which is the last big holiday until *Halloween* when **Joe King Carasco** plays *Shorty's* followed by *Thanksgiving*, *Christmas* and *New Years* and God knows what kind of catastrophic weather lies ahead. We have just entered *Hurricane Season* and the first day of autumn is on September 22nd. And I have a pinche bad feeling this year given all the insane weather patterns the entire world has endured this year between all the flash floods, wild fires, droughts and life threatening heat waves. YIKES! Stay on your toes folks it screams of chaos. But on the lighter side, it's time for our little hummers to migrate back around so load up those feeders.

Scattered shots...



Bo Luna played the Sip Yard last Friday

Elsewhere it was my boy **Johnny Elijah** playing the last *Sunset Sounds Concert Series* in the park this year. I also caught a couple of great acts at *Shorty's* with the great bluesman **John Cortez** on Friday and the ever so grungy **Left Right Left** on Saturday. I also caught a couple of great Americana bands at the *Sip Yard*, **Bo Luna** on Friday and **Tyler McCumber** on Saturday... which further extends my admiration of their booking lady, **Becky Hyden**. I had a chat with owner **Daniel Johnson** at one of their shows last weekend and he assured me there are many more monsters planned on the near horizon.

Coming this weekend...

Briefly, we have lots more fun coming your way this weekend with shows hitting in all directions. Coming this Thursday the 27th we have the **Johnson All Starz** at *Shorty's*, the **Big Time Band** at *Shorty's* and **Dean Paul Willeford** at the *Sip Yard*. On Friday the 28th we have another goodern with everybody's fave cover rock band **Dreaming in Color** playing *Shorty's*, the heralded performer **Casey Chesnutt** is at the *Yard*, cover band **Kat & the Nat 20's** is at *Bron's*, **Southern Alibi** will bring some southern rock to the *Gaff* and young rockin' **Raul Ayala** will be at *TI*. On Saturday the 29th look for **Coach Jimmy Dugan** at the *Gaff*, cowboy **Todd Dorn** and the **Sea Drifters** at *Shorty's*, **Scotty Alexander** with **Hank Weaver** opening at the *Sip Yard* and, **Jonmikael Mrez** at *Treasure Island* and **Tate Mitchell** at *Bron's*. And on Sunday the 30th it's the ever present **Coach Big Jim Dugan** on the early shift with some sing along faves and original singer-songwriter **Ty Dietz** taking the late shift as they do every week at *Shorty's*.

And, that's the truth



Southern Alibi will play the Gaff on Friday.



Kat and the Nat 20's will play Bron's this Friday.



Dreaming in Color will play Shorty's on Friday.

LIVE MUSIC TONIGHT

Thursday

August 27

Johnson All Starz @ Shorty's
Dean Paul Willeford @ Sip Yard
Big Time Band @ Gaff
Jody Jennings @ Fajitaville
Jerry Ward @ Rockit's
Jim Dugan @ Brewster on the Island
Damon Scott @ Brewster Southside
Brad Brown @ Blackbeard's on the Beach
Lisa Sullivan @ Whitecap Market
Melissa Ann @ Fifth & Elm Portland
Brian Zampini @ Anchor Bar
Randall Hunt @ Sandbox NPI
AJ Cruz, Victoria Jane @ Surf Club
Mike Luna @ Cassidy's Pub

Friday, August 28

Dreaming in Color @ Shorty's
Casey Chesnutt @ Sip Yard
Kat & the Nat 20's @ Bron's
Raul Ayala @ Treasure Island
Southern Alibi @ Gaff
Tryptonite @ Pelican Lounge
Indiglow @ Rockit's
Ruben Limas @ Blackbeards on the Beach
Lowdown Drifters @ Brewster
Downtown Emerald Live @ Brewster on the Island
Aaron Jacob @ Brewster Southside
Groove 2.0 @ Annex
Palacios Bros @ Exchange
Aaron Boultinghouse @ Sugar Shack RP

THE GAFF
BELTSANDER RACES EVERY 2ND & 4TH SAT
OPEN MIC EVERY WED WITH BRAD E.
BIG TIME BAND AUG 27
SOUTHERN ALIBI AUG 28
JIM DUGAN AUG 29
TATE MITCHELL, BRAD E AUG 30
LOS LOCALS SEPT 1
OPEN MIC SEPT 2

SHORTY'S
JOHN ELIJAH BAND EVERY MONDAY
JOHNSON ALL STARZ EVERY THURS
JIM DUGAN & TY DIETZ EVERY SUN
DREAMING IN COLOR AUG 28
TODD DORN AUG 29
TOMAN BROS SEPT 4
RED FEATHER SEPT 5

Treasure Island
RAUL AYALA AUG 28
JONMIKAEL MREZ AUG 29
TBA SEPT 4
DIAMOND'S EDGE SEPT 5
FIVE CARD DRAW SEPT 6
LUCKY DOGZ SEPT 11

Bron's BACKYARD
KAT & THE NAT 20'S AUG 28
TATE MITCHELL AUG 29
BRAD ETHRIDGE SEPT 4
TALLULAH JUNCTION SEPT 5
DAVID FLOREZ SEPT 6
LANDRY ALLEN SEPT 11

Sip Yard
DEAN PAUL WILLEFORD AUG 27
CASEY CHESNUTT AUG 28
SCOTTY ALEXANDER AUG 29
CLAY HOLLIS SEPT 4
LARRY JOE TAYLOR SEPT 5
NICK LAWRENCE SEPT 6

Orlando Herrera @ 18 Eighteen
Sikk Puppy @ Sandbox NPI
Just Cuz @ Fajitaville
Nill Goodge @ Fifth & Elm Portland

Saturday, August 29

Jim Dugan @ Gaff
Todd Dorn @ Shorty's
Scotty Alexander, Hank Weaver @ Sip Yard
Tate Mitchell @ Bron's
Jonmakael MREZ @ Treasure Island
Flatbroke @ Executive Surf Club
Groove 2.0 @ Pelican
3rd Coast Duo @ Cassidy's Pub
Lucky Dogz @ Rock Bottom
Diamonds Edge @ Rockit's
Michael Burts @ Brewster on the Island
Moving Pictures @ Brewster Downtown
Scarecrow People @ @ Brewster Southside
Dreaming in Color @ Sugar Shack RP
Love Street @ Clubhouse 7
Raul Ayala @ Exchange
MACHIN3, Rockoholics @ Fajitaville NB
Kelly Kenning, Carl Hayes @ Anchor Bar
Matt Rodd & Midnight Buzz @ Sandbox NPI
Mike Guerra @ Blackbeard's
Darren McGill @ Island Retreat PA
AJ Cruz @ Double Tree Marriott
Love Street @ Clubhouse 7 FB

Sunday, August 30

Jim Dugan, Ty Dietz @ Shorty's
Austin Forrest @ Sip

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