

Issue 1045



The

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Island Moon

The voice of The Island since 1996

April 26, 2024

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Photo by Debbie Noble



By Dale Rankin

The Big news Around The Island this week is the arrival of a manatee who has been making the rounds in Island canals. It has been a few years since we had a manatee visit our Island, the last one was named Manny, and each time their arrival creates a stir among the natives. This guy was spotted on Ducat Court this week but has been seen making his way Around The Island for several days. This is the third manatee to visit our shores in recent years and his path of arrival is unknown but with the new water passage he may have taken the express lane. And speaking of the new water passage maybe we will see a Kemp's ridley turtle find its way to our Island waterways someday soon. We offer a free copy of the Island Moon to any reader who gets the first photo of a sea turtle thereabouts. Let us hear from you. Meanwhile up the road in San Marcos the University Star newspaper reported this week that two North American Otters were seen swimming in the San Marcos River recently for the first time in decades. While the otters aren't talking it is suspected by the locals they must have come from California since that is where most immigrants to the Texas Hill County originate of late.



Island welcome sign

We feature a story in this edition about the recent repairs to the statue that welcomes visitors to The Island. Long-time Islander Richard Pittman has been involved with making the sign possible and keeping it lit for three decades now and we thank him for his work.

The future of Island development...

For the past several years development on the south end of Padre Island, specifically on the west side of SPID from Whitecap Boulevard to the Kleberg County line, has been hampered due to a glitch in a decades-long city program for reimbursing private developers who spend money there on infrastructure required by city rules which is well beyond the scope of that needed for their specific project. The developers of the center housing the IGA Island Market had to build an oversized sewer line at a cost of \$900,000 because city planners looking down the road understood it will/may someday need to accommodate growth all along that corridor. When developers across the city saw that \$900,000 number they rushed to file plans in order to be assured of being reimbursed for projects across the city before

Around cont. on A4

Whitecap Development announces plans for Marina District

Construction of dry-stack boat storage to begin in 2024

By Dale Rankin

The developers of the Whitecap North Padre Island project this week announced plans to begin work on a 300-unit dry boat storage facility adjacent to the Don Patricio Bridge by the end of 2024. The facility is the first structure that is part of the Marina District located west of the bridge which will also be the location of an on-site fuel stations, a bait shop and a two-story yacht club with a serene retreat, featuring a lounge, restaurant, pool and a curated gift shop. marina and yacht club facility. Construction on the boat storage building is expected to be finished in 2025, according to a statement from the company this week. More Images on page 5 of this issue.



Whitecap NPI Marina District



Whitecap NPI Yacht Club

Sheet Piling going in at Commodores Bridge

Work crews have begun installing sheet piling on the \$9.2 million Commodores Bridge project which will connect the dead-end canal north of Commodores Drive to new canals on the Whitecap North Padre Island site to the south. The new five-lane bridge will include a turn lane for northbound Cabana North Street and fourteen feet of clearance for boat passage.

Bridge cont. on A5



Sandfest 2024 Winners



1st Place in duo masters division by Chris Guinto and Melineige Beauregard of Hawaii. Entitled Mother Nature. Photo by Neesy Tompkins



First Place Master Solo winner Abe Waterman.

A little South Texas history

Lighting the Island (Kent Ullberg) Marlin Statue

Editor's note: For three decades Islander Richard Pittman has been instrumental in constructing and maintaining the marlin statue and sign that greets visitors to The Island at the base of the JFK Causeway. This is his story.

By Richard Pittman

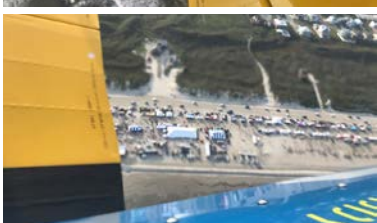
In 1989 Ralph Durden who was the main force behind Padre Island Investment Corp. assembled a group of Islanders to install a welcoming monument to those crossing the Intracoastal Canal and entering North Padre Island –



The Island. Ralph got the Island architect Ro Wickman and the Island world renowned sculptor Kent Ullberg to design the monument. Kent Ullberg, who is originally from Sweden (where he grew up in a fishing village and was a Swedish Navy Seal in the North Sea) and his wife Veerle bought a home on Padre Island in 1977. You can find more about his life in a documentary that will be released this summer, but you can

History cont. on page A5

Sandfest 2024 from the Island Biplane!



If you see a yellow and blue biplane flying around above the Island, it is Jason Towns. He buzzed Sandfest last week and sent us these photos. More Sandfest Photos throughout this issue!

It's time to vote!

Nueces County Appraisal District Board of Directors Election

Voting continues through Tuesday Calallen school bond package drives turnout

Mail-in ballots accounted for the majority of the ballots in the first two days of voting in the race for three seats on the Nueces County Appraisal District Board of Directors. The voting, which culminates in the May 4, General Election, will allow voters to directly elect three members of that board for the first time.


The first two days of voting saw a total of 1620 ballots cast with 983 of those coming in the form of Mail-in ballots and 637 in-person ballots cast. The largest turnout was at the voting center in Calallen where a \$12.6 million bond package is driving turnout, followed by the Nueces County Courthouse where 88 ballots were cast in the first two days of balloting, the voting center in Bishop, where an \$18 million bond package is on the ballot saw 84 votes cast, while in Banquette where the largest bond package at \$48.4 million is on the ballot saw only 24 votes cast.

On at the Padre Island voting center at Briscoe King Pavilion 29 ballots were cast and in Port Aran-

Appraisal cont. on A6



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Letters to the Editor

I AM WHEEL. HEAR ME SQUEAK.



Dear Moon Monkeys,

Last week I submitted a photo of SMA island boys who are advocating for a skate park and included the link to a Petition. The Island Moon wrote that I created the Petition. I cannot take credit for the Petition. I simply shared the link and sent the picture. Photo courtesy of Cheryl Segrest.

As a licensed Texas lawyer with a political science degree, I was beaming with pride watching these young men advocate for themselves and the entire island. I want personally thank the moms, dads, and grandmas that were able to take these kids to City Hall. I further want to thank Dr. Daniels and the entire Seashore community for their support of the boys and their quest for a skate park on the island.

Sincerely,
Amanda Lesinski

Message from the Nueces County Democrat Party Chair

René Sáenz

Elections have begun for the Nueces County Appraisal Districts At Large races. There are 3 voting At Large Slots for Place 1, 2, and 3. In Place 1 there are 4 candidates, Place 2 there are 3 candidates, and Place 3 there are 4 Candidates. All Nueces County Residents who are registered to voter can vote for one person in all three places. Some of you have asked who are the Democrats and Republicans running in these races? One way to view this is to see what their primary voting history is like. So, let's see

Place 1 Candidates

1.) Tony Alcoser 2024 and 2008 Republican Primary
2.) Floyd Anderson 2024, 2016, 2014, and 2010 Republican Primary and 2008 and 2006 Democratic Primary
3.) James McGill 2024, 2022, and 2020 Republican Primary
4.) Mark Lawing 2024, 2022, and 2020 Republican Primary

Place 2 Candidates

1.) Joseph Titlebaurm 2024 Republican Primary and 2022, 2020, and 2016 Democratic Primary
2.) John Cudd 2016 Republican Primary
3.) Corbett Pool 2024, 2022, 2018, 2014 and 2010 Republican Primary and 2008 and 2006 Democratic Primary

Place 3 Candidates

1.) Ed Bennett 2024, 2022, and 2020 Republican Primary and 2018 Democratic Primary
2.) Glenna Elliff 2024, 2022, 2020, 2018, 2016, 2014, 2012, and 2008 Republican Primary
3.) Shirley Madej 2008 Democratic Primary
4.) Ken Baker 2020, 2014, 2012, 2010, 2008, and 2006 Democratic Primary and 2022, 2018, and 2016 Republican Primary

Dear Editor,

Thank you for the opportunity to introduce myself to you and your readers. My name is Floyd “Andy” Anderson, a lifelong resident of Corpus Christi. I attended Menger Elementary, Wynn Seale, followed by Hamlin, and then Ray High School where I graduated in 1957. Subsequently, I pursued higher education at Del Mar College for two years before earning my BBA from Texas A&M in 1961, completing 38 credit hours in accounting.

For the past 15 years, I have been a local real estate broker. Additionally, I proudly served in the Coast Guard Reserve for 21 years, retiring as a Commander. During my tenure, I served as Commanding Officer in the Corpus Christi unit for two years, and I concluded my service as Commanding Officer in the Port Isabel unit.

In the latter part of my 28-year career, I held the role of Manager of Ad Valorem Taxes at Central Power and Light Company for five years. In this capacity, I was responsible for assessing all CPL properties across 44 counties, working closely with the respective county appraisal districts. More recently, I served on the Nueces County Appraisal Review Board for five years.

Aside from these career points, most people in Corpus know me as the original owner of Andy’s Country Kitchen. I ran Andy’s for eight years and sat down at countless people’s table with blueberry muffins in hand. Through all of these conversations, I feel that I know the people of Corpus Christi and would be honored to represent them.

Given my achievements and lifelong dedication to serving the business community and enhancing the lives of Corpus Christi residents, I believe that I can contribute significantly to your prestigious board, subject to your esteemed endorsement. My goal would be to advance our community by advocating for appraisals to occur triennially instead of annually, which would alleviate the workload for the Appraisal Review Board and appraisers while ensuring compliance with regulations established by the Texas State Comptroller’s Office.

I would sincerely appreciate your support and vote.

Thank you for considering my candidacy.

Yours faithfully,

Floyd “Andy” Anderson

Appraisal District Place 3

I am Ed Bennett

A candidate for the at large position number three at the Nueces County appraisal District

I am a certified public accountant, and a certified fraud examiner, I served as a Del Mar College Regent from 2016 through 2022. I also serve on the city of Corpus Christi Ethics Commission.

Both my undergraduate and graduate degree are from the University of Houston College business administration.

I have decades of experience working with budgets and financial statements. My experience an industry is as a corporate controller and chief financial officer for publicly traded corporations. Those positions I worked with both the financial statements and policy.

Two primary functions of the board members for the appraisal district are the budget and policies.

The three newly elected positions do the appraisal board are the first opportunity that the taxpayers have for direct representation on this board. Historically, these board members were all appointed by the taxing entities that the appraisal district serves.

My primary goal and running for this office is fairness and transparency in both the

policies and the budgeting. The property owners deserved to have fair appraisals and to understand the basis underlying the appraisals.

Currently in Texas, there is an entire industry devoted to Disputing property tax appraisals. This industry generates millions of dollars for those that offer the services to negotiate with the various appraisal districts. The entities offering to negotiate valuations or populated with former employees and Board members from the appraisal districts around Texas.

Once we were able to institute fair valuations, and an easier process of appeal, the industry devoted to disputing property tax appraisals, which cost the tax Millions of dollars, will virtually be eliminated.

It’s important to also focus on reducing the litigation expanse. We do have several large corporations in the county that have the ability to hire experts for the purpose of reducing property valuations and consequently, reducing property taxes

Everyone’s best interest is served when we can avoid litigation expense. Although it will never be eliminated, our policies should reflect fairness and equity in the evaluation procedures.

Please contact me with any questions. Thank you.

Ed@southtexasmis.com
(956) 792-5534

Island obituary

Randy Calvert

Thomas Randall “Randy” of Port Aransas, left this world to join our Lord on April 3, 2024. Randy was born April 26, 1967 in Denton, Texas. A lifelong seeker of knowledge and truth, Randy enjoyed a lifetime of adventure. He was an avid thrill seeker, always looking forward to the next journey, never turning around but always forward. No turning back. He made so many people so happy, bringing together friends: always the perfect host. Larger than life, he not only talked the talk, but he truly walked the walk.


Randy was surrounded by his friends and family for his transition to the afterparty. He is preceeded in death by his Mother, Ellece Calvert, and is survived by his dog Little Little and his sister, Janet Calvert, of Oceanview, Hawaii.

A celebration of life will be scheduled for a later date.



Moon Monkeys

Mike Ellis, Founder



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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
14646 Compass, Suite 4
Corpus Christi, TX 78418
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Senior Moments Special to The Island Moon

By Dotson Lewis



Introduction to The WW II War Crimes Trials

Dotson's Note: Following World War II, the victorious Allied governments established the first international criminal tribunals to prosecute high-level political officials and military authorities for war crimes and other wartime atrocities.

The four major Allied powers—France, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, and the United States—set up the International Military Tribunal (IMT) in Nuremberg, Germany, to prosecute and punish “the major war criminals of the European Axis.”

The IMT presided over a combined trial of senior Nazi political and military leaders, as well as several Nazi organizations.



The lesser-known International Military Tribunal for the Far East (IMTFE) was created in Tokyo, Japan, pursuant to a 1946 proclamation by U.S. Army General Douglas MacArthur, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers in occupied Japan. The IMTFE presided over a series of trials of senior Japanese political and military leaders in accordance with its authority “to try and punish Far Eastern war criminals.”

The origins, composition, and jurisdiction of the Nuremberg and Tokyo tribunals differed in several important respects beyond their geographical differences and personalities. Plans to prosecute German political and military leaders were announced in the 1942 St. James Declaration. In the declaration, the United States joined Australia, Canada, China, India, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, the Soviet Union, and nine exiled governments of German-occupied countries to condemn Germany’s “policy of aggression.” The Declaration stated that these governments “placed among their principal war aims the punishment, through the channel of organized justice, of those guilty of or responsible for these crimes, whether they have ordered them, perpetrated them or participated in them.” In August 1945, the four major Allied powers therefore signed the 1945 London Agreement, which established the IMT. The following additional countries subsequently “adhered” to the agreement to show their support: Australia, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ethiopia, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, India, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Uruguay, and Yugoslavia.

The Charter of the International Military Tribunal (or Nuremberg Charter) was annexed to the 1945 London Agreement and outlined the tribunal’s constitution, functions, and jurisdiction. The Nuremberg tribunal consisted of one judge from each of the Allied powers, which each also supplied a prosecution team. The Nuremberg Charter also provided that the IMT had the authority to try and punish persons who “committed any of the following crimes:”

- (a) Crimes Against Peace: namely, planning, preparation, initiation or waging of a war of aggression, or a war in violation of international treaties, agreements or assurances, or participation in a Common Plan or Conspiracy for the accomplishment of any of the foregoing;
- (b) War Crimes: namely, violations of the laws or customs of war. Such violations shall include, but not be limited to, murder, ill-treatment or deportation to slave labor or for any other purpose of civilian population of or in occupied territory, murder or ill-treatment of prisoners of war or persons on the seas, killing of hostages, plunder of public or private property, wanton destruction of cities, towns, or villages, or devastation not justified by military necessity;
- (c) Crimes Against Humanity: namely, murder, extermination, enslavement, deportation, and other inhumane acts committed against any civilian population, before or during the war, or persecutions on political, racial, or religious grounds in execution of or in connection with any crime within the jurisdiction of the Tribunal, whether or not in violation of domestic law of the country where perpetrated

The IMT prosecutors indicted twenty-two

senior German political and military leaders, including Hermann Goering, Rudolph Hess, Joachim von Ribbentrop, Alfred Rosenberg, and Albert Speer. Nazi leader Adolf Hitler was not indicted because he had committed suicide in April 1945, in the final days before Germany’s surrender. Seven Nazi organizations also were indicted. The prosecutors sought to have the tribunal declare that these organizations were “criminal organizations” in order to facilitate the later prosecution of their members by other tribunals or courts.



The Nuremberg Trial lasted from November 1945 to October 1946. The tribunal found nineteen individual defendants guilty and sentenced them to punishments that ranged from death by hanging to fifteen years’ imprisonment. Three defendants were found not guilty, one committed suicide prior to trial, and one did not stand trial due to physical or mental illness. The Nuremberg Tribunal also concluded that three of the seven indicted Nazi organizations were “criminal organizations” under the terms of the Charter: the Leadership Corps of the Nazi party; the elite “SS” unit, which carried out the forced transfer, enslavement, and extermination of millions of persons in concentration camps; and the Nazi security police and the Nazi secret police, commonly known as the ‘SD’ and ‘Gestapo,’ respectively, which had instituted slave labor programs and deported Jews, political opponents, and other civilians to concentration camps.

Unlike the IMT, the IMTFE was not created by an international agreement, but it nonetheless emerged from international agreements to try Japanese war criminals. In July 1945, China, the United Kingdom, and the United States signed the Potsdam Declaration, in which they demanded Japan’s “unconditional surrender” and stated that “stern justice shall be meted out to all war criminals.” At the time that the Potsdam Declaration was signed, the war in Europe had ended but the war with Japan was continuing. The Soviet Union did not sign the declaration because it did not declare war on Japan until weeks later, on the same day that the United States dropped the second atomic bomb at Nagasaki. Japan surrendered six days later, on August 14, 1945.

At the subsequent Moscow Conference, held in December 1945, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, and the United States (with concurrence from China) agreed to a basic structure for the occupation of Japan. General MacArthur, as Supreme Commander of the Allied Powers, was granted authority to “issue all orders for the implementation of the Terms of Surrender, the occupation and control of Japan, and all directives supplementary thereto.”



In January 1946, acting pursuant to this authority, General MacArthur issued a special proclamation that established the IMTFE. The Charter for the International Military Tribunal for the Far East was annexed to the proclamation. Like the Nuremberg Charter, it laid out the composition, jurisdiction, and functions of the tribunal.

Dotson's Other Note: The Charter provided for MacArthur to appoint judges to the IMTFE from the countries that had signed Japan's instrument of surrender: Australia, Canada, China, France, India, the Netherlands, Philippines, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Each of these countries also had a prosecution team. The weekly Veterans Round Table meetings are on Thursdays 9-11AM. All veterans, their families and anyone interested in veterans' activities, are invited. The meeting location is at Del Mar College, Center for Economic Development, 3209 S. Staples. (Across from Ray High School). Also, the Veterans Radio Round Table is on the air on KEYS AM 1440 & 98.7 FM, 8 – 10 a.m., Saturdays. Please listen and call in or text. The listener/text line is: 361-882-5397. It's your two hours; please let us hear from you.



Stuff I Heard on the Island

By Dale Rankin

I read the Letter in the April 19 issue that is concerned with adding a roof top bar and observation Deck (at the new Bob Hall Pier). I am confused, isn't the Restaurant "Mikel May's"? Last I heard May had bought out Mikel. Then the hurricane knocked out the pier and the county had frozen the lease till the pier was rebuilt. Right? Why isn't the restaurant being referred to as "Mikel May's"? Did the County somehow push Mikel May's out? What did I miss? Wouldn't it be Mikel May's decision to continue the lease or at least have 1st option? Dave Walsh

You are correct Dave...ah, but here in the Kingdom of Nueces we are dangerously close to the Rio Bravo. To begin we refer here to the Harper/Collins dictionary under the term “Can of Worms” defined as : *a situation that is much more complicated, unpleasant, or difficult than it seems at first. Ex: Now we have uncovered a can of worms in which there has not only been shameful abuse of power, but a failure of moral authority of the worst kind.*

Once upon a time...

Let's start at the beginning...once upon a time in the sovereign Kingdom of Nueces in a county not so far away was a pier named after a long-ago sovereign Bob from the House of Hall that had a restaurant on it. Then came a mighty wind that created a wave that knocked down the pier but not the restaurant. The owner of the restaurant didn't own the building the restaurant was in but did have a lease/contract that still had several years to go and in that contract was a “*force majeure*” clause (French for “*superior force*”) which according to the duo of Harper and Collins is a contract provision that *relieves the parties from performing their contractual obligations when certain circumstances beyond their control arise, making performance inadvisable, commercially impracticable, illegal, or impossible.* That is to say something akin to a hurricane which destroys the pier and the utilities to the restaurant structure owned by the Kingdom of Nueces and you would think suspends the lease/contract until the building is put back into working order at which time the clock on the lease/contract would begin to run once again.

A change in the Palace of Nueces...

The reigning sovereign in the Palace of Nueces at the time of the terrible storm set about to restore the pier and the restaurant building to working order with the cooperation of the restaurant owner with the idea that out of disaster could come a new and improved pier and restaurant building. Around and around went the plan. How big should the new restaurant be? How about a flat roof so that it could become useable space with a nice view? How about a longer pier so that fisherpersons could fish for whales at its seaward edge? How about a second pier designed for surfing so that surfers around the new improved pier didn't have to wear helmets to avoid brain damage from flying fishing weights or Flying Indians from fish hooks catching on their board shorts?

Fine suggestions all and plans went round and round until there was a new reigning sovereign in the Palace of Nueces. As the tale unfolded it occurred that two of the court jesters who were also members of the ruling junta took umbrage to the fact that there were ties between the restaurant owner and the previous sovereign which led the new sovereign and her jesters to conclude that they, as the new sovereigns in the Kingdom of Nueces, did not want the old restaurant owner to be the new restaurant owner when the *force majeure* in the contract ran its course. But how to do that they pondered?

Around cont. from A1

money in the fund ran out and soon enough money in the fund ran out. That has served to stymie new development of, among other things, a new commercial center which would require the installation of an oversized sewer line at a cost of \$2 million with the schedule for reimbursement of that outlay unknown due to the uncertain future of the reimbursement fund.

At issue is whether the developers of new projects across the city will be required to pay an upfront impact fee on new projects that would be used to offset the costs of their or others' future projects. That topic will be the subject of a meeting on Thursday, May 23, at the Ethel Eyerly Senior Center in Flour Bluff. We understand that discussions about sewer lines aren't the usual topic at dinner tables Around The

Pondering pachyderm

As it turned out the two jesters in the Kingdom of Nueces awoke suddenly during a meeting of record and in their wokeness declared that no institution owned by the people in the Kingdom of Nueces should sell intoxicating grog to the subjects of the kingdom as it offended their sensibilities and on that account, and citing a shilling shortage, voted by a 3-2 margin of the sovereigns that no restaurant/bar would be allowed on the new pier and therefore the lease/contract was henceforth null and void - *force majeure* be hanged!

This leads us back to the Oxford Dictionary to seek definition of the term *Elephant in the Room*... defined as *a major problem or controversial issue that is obviously present but avoided as a subject for discussion because it is more comfortable to do so.* In this case the pondering pachyderm thereabouts took the form of the question *how can the reigning sovereigns simply cancel the lease/contract of a vassal subject who committed no crime against the sovereigns beyond that of owning said establishment during a storm brought to shore by Mother Nature?*

The kings have no clothes...

It was soon enough pointed out to the jesters of the Sovereign Court who objected to the selling of intoxicating grog on public premises that in fact such grog was currently readily available at establishments owned by the sovereigns in each of their respective precincts – a reality which it *seemed* they were able to comprehend although full understanding of their cognitive grasp and reach was not readily discernable due to their ubiquitous use of circular logic and verbal obfuscations. They found themselves on the horns of a dilemma; should they stick to their moral objections to the sale of intoxicating grog across the Kingdom of Nueces and in their respective precincts under an overarching categorical imperative or should they relax their moral turpitudes in order to continue cashing checks from the sale of grog in their own portions of the kingdom? Once again the jesters pondered but alas, not for long.

The power of grog...

Before you could say *vassals be hanged* the jesters reversed their moral compass and cast their lot with restoring the notion of a restaurant on the kingdom's pier and the notion of a grog-slinging restaurant on the new pier like the Phoenix was born again! The power of gold reigned supreme in the Kingdom of Nueces! Shillings have voices, who knew!?

Which leads us back to the question of the Pondering Pachyderm...how can the sovereign rulers of the Kingdom of Nueces cast misfortune on a vassal who is in possession of a lease/contract and without blame other than a fealty to the previous sovereign?

The third act...

We now enter Act III of our tale with a question; can the pair of court jesters during their periods of wokeness wrap their circular logic around the twisted nature of the legal ramifications their actions have let loose upon the kingdom? Has the power of the coin of the realm permanently overridden their fear of the devil's grog? Will a new restaurant arise out of the machinations of the sovereign ruling junta, and if so will the previous and now aggrieved vassal be anointed with the old lease/contract or will a new vassal – and high/low bidder – emerge as the White Knight? Rapunzel, Rapunzel, let down your golden hair that we the great unwashed plebeians of the coastal plain may scale the ramparts of thy wisdom and see the light now only visible from the omnipotent perch on thy side of the unimpeachable moat where the wisest in the Kingdom of Nueces reside so that we too may live happily ever after?!

I hope that answers your question Dave.

Island but this one will have a direct impact on new development here on Padre Island for the next decade. We will have more on the topic as the date approaches.

That's all for now everybody, watch out for manatees and say hello if you see us Around The Island.

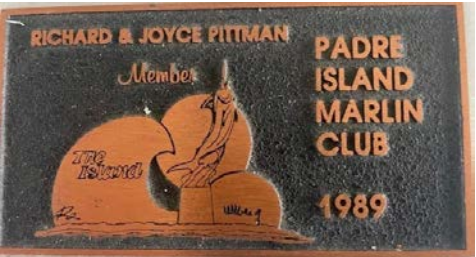


Manatee with its head under a deck.

History cont. from A1

preview the trailer at www.GriffynCo.com – Ullberg Film.

I was one of the original group of Islanders that got involved with the installation of this monument. I provided the electrical and lighting design and worked with the famous Calvin Self (Industrial Electric) to get it installed. Ralph saw that everyone involved received an engraved paper weight. Mine has been a special treasure.



Around 2015 vandals stole the bronze plaques that were attached to the base of the monument which recognized all that had been involved in the project. The vandals also stole the floodlights lighting the monument. The Marlin and Wave/Sun backdrop remained in darkness for several



years. In 2019 I solicited our then District 4 city councilman Greg Smith to assist in funding the relighting of the monument. He found a private donor that paid the cost for new marine grade LED flood lighting and a new electrical power supply. Thanks, Greg. Working with Islander Tommie Lee - T&L Electric - the new lighting was installed and bolted to concrete foundations with custom-made stainless-steel enclosures to prevent theft.

December 2023, I was driving over the JFK Bridge and noticed that the lights were not working. I got Tommie Lee involved again and with investigation by myself and T&L Electric – David Shinski, Trey Shores, and EJ Nunez, we had premature LED lamp failure along with fire ants in the stainless-steel electrical panel. The lighting fixtures had a 5-year warranty and had been in service 4 ½ years. After much effort and many phone calls between the lighting representative in San Antonio, the lighting manufacture in Wisconsin, Fed Ex, and T&L. the mission of relighting the Marlin Statue was finally accomplished last week.



Whitecap NPI Marina area Concept Images



Commodores Bridge Construction Continues

Bridge cont. from A1

The project is being done by contractor Anderson Columbia, Inc. with the current work by subcontractor Liska Construction Company, Inc.

The new bridge will be of standard design supported with concrete I beams and is on schedule to be finished by the end of 2025. It is being paid for with funds from the Island Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone #2.



The Port Aransas Cookbook

The first time I became aware of any controversy over Fettuccine Alfredo, I was waiting tables at a little joint in Lewiston, Idaho called Henry J's Cafe.

My girlfriend at the time, Celean, had wrested me from my intractable plight in Port Aransas and hauled me to a cabin in the hills west of Clarkston, Washington. The state line that separated Idaho from Washington ran down the middle of The Snake River. It was the dead of winter in the Lewis and Clark Valley and I needed a job.

Chef Allan Legoll and his partner Patrice Pecora had a nice little restaurant with Henry J's. It was not a cafe despite carrying the word in its name. If one had to label it, the restaurant offered casual fine dining. The place was intimate - and by that I mean tiny. There might have been twelve tables. Chef Allan had a sous chef and a dishwasher. Patrice pulled triple-duty as manager, hostess, and expeditor. There were two other waitpersons - although only two of the three of us ever worked at the same time. We bussed our own tables.

It was a fun place to work. Chef Allan epitomized the old-school grumpy chef. He even wore a toque and insisted on only being called Chef at work. His dedication to craft was unmatched and he was a walking food encyclopedia. The dude graduated from culinary school *in the eighties* before it was even a thing. Prone to apoplectic fits of fine-dining rage, Chef Allan nonetheless had a heart of gold.

Patrice had recently operated her own women's apparel shop and had traveled extensively around the world on buying trips. She was charming, always ebullient, and quick to laugh. In fact, she suffered from a rare form of hilarity that would see her irrepressibly blushed and gasping for air. Occasionally I would deadpan something to her along the lines of "you may want to go speak to table seven. I was taking their dessert order and farted loudly".

There was always an employee meal offered to the staff at Henry J's. They varied, but were always quite good. Chef kept his beef tenderloin on a wire rack in a hotel pan, uncovered in a reach-in refrigerator - a sort of makeshift, short-term, dry-aging process if you will. There would often be a chunk of said steak leftover after Chef had long since moved on to a fresh whole tenderloin. This piece of beef would typically be a little overly dry-aged - and by that I mean almost black and somewhat putrid. Chef Allan would trim off the crusty exterior and sear it black and blue for me. The rest of the staff either reveled in - or were reviled by - my obvious delection in devouring it.

There was not a kid's menu at Henry J's. To have had one would have been to encourage the attendance of children. Occasionally one of the roguish brats - so openly abhorred by Chef Allan - would make it past Patrice's best efforts at gatekeeping. When pressed to feed a little one, Chef would fail to overcome his bellicose regard - but make an excellent Fettuccine Alfredo anyway. I watched Chef Allan Legoll prepare the dish from the safety of my side of the pick-up window and noticed he was not using heavy cream. Unfortunately, I inquired. And lo, this is when I learned that "Fettuccine Alfredo doesn't have any freaking cream in it!"

Alfredo Di Lelio's wife was not only with child, but of a particularly delicate constitution when he was faced with feeding her in the last century's aughts. So he made her some pasta with butter and cheese. This was far from inventive. Pasta with butter and cheese had been a makeshift staple of Italians through the ages. A printed recipe appears in an Italian cookbook in 1465. There is even a medieval English recipe

A Particular Pasta's Perplexing Past

By Chris Jordan



Alfredo himself

for something very similar from the same timeframe:

"Take and make a thynne foyle of dowh. and kerve it on peces, and cast hem on boillyng water & seep it well. take chese and grate it and butt cast bynethen and above as losyns. and sue forth."

Simple dishes of pasta with butter and cheese had been made long before - and certainly even contemporaneously with - Alfredo's concoction. A fine example is *pasta dei cortuni*, so named for the meal a man's wife hastily prepared for him upon his return home from work because she had been busy all day with her lovers. Even the pedestrian *pasta al burro* is often topped with cheese. So what made Alfredo's version remarkable? Showmanship and good fortune.

Signor Di Lelio eventually opened a restaurant, you see. Called simply *Alfredo*, the restaurant was advantageously located in Rome's city center. The mustachioed Alfredo himself would twirl and toss pasta, butter, and cheese tableside, making dramatic gestures with utensils reaching up and overhead.

It wasn't until the spring of 1920 that the fate of Alfredo's humble dish would change course. Giants of the silver screen Douglas Fairbanks and his new wife Mary Pickford were on honeymoon in Rome when they delighted in the theater of Alfredo's service. They would go on to tell all their Hollywood pals about this joint in Rome. The restaurant quickly became the darling of the glitterati. In the summer of 1927, Alfredo was gifted a solid gold spoon from Douglass and matching fork from Mary, each inscribed with the phrase "To Alfredo, the king of the noodles" and the respective giver's name.

And that's all the history of Fettuccine Alfredo that counts if you ask me. The how, why, when, and where of the addition of cream..... who cares? Fettuccine Alfredo doesn't have any freaking cream in it.



Alfredo's golden utensils

THE ORIGINAL FETTUCCINE ALFREDO
Created in 1914 by Alfredo Di Lelio, this original recipe was a closely guarded secret until it was prepared on the Today Show in January, 2002.

1 lb. fresh pasta
6 oz. unsalted butter
6 oz. Parmigiano Reggiano cheese, grated

Cook the pasta in 1 gallon of salted boiling water for three minutes. While the pasta is cooking, blend the butter and cheese at room temperature. Blend until the cheese almost dissolves, and a smooth cream is formed. Strain the pasta, leaving just a small amount of water. Toss the pasta with the Alfredo sauce and serve with additional grated cheese.

The original recipe

Going Native

Spring Blooms Despite Watering Restrictions

By Ed Proffitt



Swamp Mallow

I read the April 2024 update by state climatologist Dr. John Nielsen-Gammon and his team focusing on trends through 2036. Let’s start with a quote that grabbed me from the Executive Summary: “The average annual Texas surface temperature in 2036 is expected to be 3.0 °F warmer than the 1950-1999 average and 1.8 °F warmer than the 1991-2020 average. The number of 100-degree days at typical stations is expected to quadruple by 2036 compared to the 1970s and 1980s“. That’s a LOT of 100 deg. F. days! They had some good news that they project some increases in precipitation as an average across the state. But, the (other) bad news was that drought will likely continue to be a factor probably in cycles as historic trends suggest, and intensity may be exacerbated by the expected higher summer temperatures. So, hold on to your hats for a possible wild ride over the next 12 years and especially wear that had outside in the increasingly intense summers. There’s a lot more in the report than that, and you can find it at https://texas2036.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/2024_ClimateReport.pdf . National climate folks now say we have a good chance of a fairly quick shift from El Nino (wetter) to La Nina (drier) conditions in the next several months. And, possibly in part because of the above, as well as consultation with other experts I’d expect, the City is now mentioning the possibility of phase 3 water restrictions later this summer.

There’s never been a better time for you to think seriously about switching from water-intense use plants to more drought tolerant native plants. I want to focus on one that I’ve mentioned before because it not only survived our most recent mini-hard freeze, but is already blooming in my yard. Today, there’s one flower open and another beginning, but there’s at least 10 other flower buds that should be open in a week or so. This plant is the Texas swamp mallow, *Pavonia lasiopetala*, in the Malvaceae a family of some 244 genera and 2445 species including hibiscus. *P. lasiopetala* can withstand hot, dry conditions but also and thrive in areas that are wetter, hence the swamp portion of the common name. It blooms in the spring and summer. Flowers open in the morning and begin to close during very hot afternoons. It can handle both full sun and partial shade and a variety of soil conditions, including even rocky outcrops. Apparently it can withstand the salt spray that our yard receives at about ½ mile from the foredune. Swamp mallow is reported to get as tall as four to eight feet, but I’ve not seen any locally nearly that size. Not only will this plant conserve water, it also attracts many pollinators including hummingbirds. It’s a perennial but also is reported to live only a few years, however, it readily re-seeds itself or you can re-start from cuttings. This is just one native plant to consider as you keep thinking of Going Native.

Nature Notes

Roadrunners

By Celeste Silling



A Greater Roadrunner spotted in Nevada, U.S.A.

Photo by Lip Kee

One of the most famous and beloved birds of the Southwest is the Greater Roadrunner (*Geococcyx californianus*). These birds are about two feet long from the tip of their bill to the tip of their tail. They have a dark black-blue crest at the top of their head and mottled plumage to help them camouflage into the desert landscape. Their appearance is striking, but, of course, they are most easily recognized by their behavior.

The Greater Roadrunner is, predictably, is a runner. In fact, these birds can run at speeds up to 26 miles per hour, easily outpacing a human. For comparison, Usain Bolt set the world record in the 100-meter sprint at 9.58 seconds with an average speed of 23.35 miles per hour. So even he probably couldn’t outrun a roadrunner at top speed! Roadrunners can be seen in the Southwest running along roads, through the desert, and over pathways. Their impressive speed can help them catch prey and escape predators.

The Greater Roadrunner’s diet is quite impressive. They eat a small amount of plant material, but the vast majority of their diet is made up of other animals. Roadrunners will hunt and eat small mammals, frogs, insects, scorpions, other birds, and anything else they can catch. Even rattlesnakes! A roadrunner can kill a rattlesnake by pecking it repeatedly on the head. It can kill larger prey by hitting it against a rock. This also makes the prey easier to consume.

Roadrunners are members of the cuckoo family, and there are only two species of roadrunners in the world. There is the Lesser Roadrunner, which it isn’t found in the U.S. It’s range is in Mesoamerica. The Greater Roadrunner can be found in the Southwestern part of the U.S. and in Mexico. It prefers open, scrubby areas in the desert, and can also be found in forests and grasslands. They tend to avoid densely populated areas, but can still be found on the edges of cities like Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Greater Roadrunners nest in trees, on branches about 3-10 feet up off the ground. The male roadrunner will bring nesting materials to the female, including twigs, leaves, and even snake skin. She will construct the nest as a platform with a shallow bowl for the eggs, up to 17 inches in diameter. Then, she will lay her eggs inside. Each clutch contains 2 to 6 eggs, which will be incubated for about twenty days. Fortunately, Greater Roadrunners populations are doing very well, and in fact their numbers have increased in recent years. It’s encouraging to see this special species thriving! Roadrunners have been recorded throughout Texas, though its uncommon to see them here on the Upper Texas Coast. For a better view, you can travel to the Chihuahuan Desert of West Texas or the South Texas brushlands, which have reliable roadrunner sightings. Keep an eye on the roads as you drive over, you never know what you’ll see!

Appraisal cont. from A1

sas at the Port Aransas Community Center only eight votes were tallied. Early voting runs through Friday, April 26 with balloting from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on April 29 and April 30 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. at: Briscoe King Pavilion 15820 Park Rd. 22 on Padre Island Ethel Eyerly Senior Center 654 Graham Rd. in Flour Bluff Port Aransas Community Center 408 N. Alister St. in Port Aransas. Under new rules appointees to the Appraisal Review Board, (ARB) which hears appeals from property owners, must have the approval of two of the three new members of the Board of Directors who will be elected in May. Campaign financial disclosure reports for candidates running for the three seats in the May balloting will not be available for public viewing until after the election under current state election laws. The May election came out of the last session of the Texas Legislature and eventually the elections will be moved to the November election cycle which will require filing of campaign finance reports prior to voters going to the polls.

Who is running...

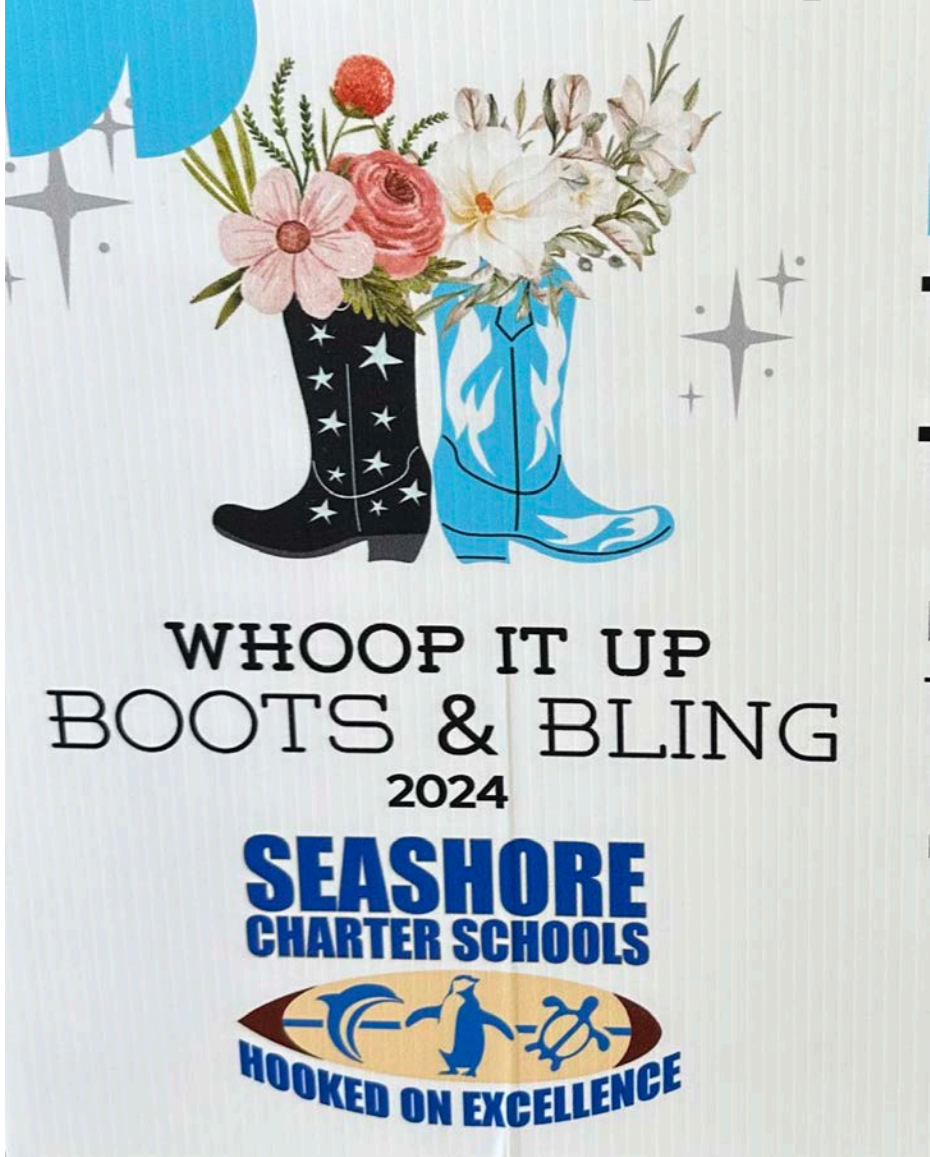
The filing period for the three seats has closed with eleven running for three seats on the board with candidates split into the three separate races with four candidates in two races and three in the third. Voters can choose one candidate in each of the three races. The new law requires that the winner in each race get a majority of votes making it likely there will be a runoff in some of the places. The candidates are as follows, in ballot order.

Place 1
Tony Alcoser – Robstown resident.
Floyd “Andy” Anderson – Island resident.
James Magill. - Corpus Christi resident.
Mark Lawing Sr. - Robstown resident. .

Place 2
Joseph E. Titlebaum – Port Aransas resident.
John M. Cudd –
Corbett “Butch” Pool –

Place 3
Ed Bennett – Corpus Christi resident.
Glenna Elliff –
Shirley “Mayday” Madej – Corpus Christi resident.
Ken L. Baker –

It’s Time to Whoop it Up!



Whoop it Up is the premiere Island event supporting the Seashore Charter Schools. As an open enrollment charter school they receive no property tax dollars. They depend on the generosity of sponsors and donors to fund many of their programs. Please go to their Facebook page “Seashore Middle Academy” for a link to buy tickets or donate. The event is on May 4th at Marker 37 Marina.


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Business Briefs

By Mary Craft
mkay512@aol.com

The Comedy Show at the Packery Bar under the bridge was a huge success. The three stand-up comics led by Mario «Superstar» Salazar had the crowd laughing non-stop for three hours. It was a professional production with color lighting set up and VIP tables around the stage. The open second floor was full of patrons, as well. The boats slowly cruising by gave the comedians material to ad lib with and plenty of interaction. Mario is a veteran from the Valley that has quite the following and he recently performed in New Mexico. A great waterfront unique event for the Island that will be back monthly with a rotation of stand-up comedians. The Packery Bar goal is to make it more than a bar but a music/event venue with a small town feel. They will be bringing more musicians from outside the area to perform.



There have been Manatee sightings this week at Ducat, Key Largo and other canals around the Island. If he sticks around maybe we should give him a name?

The Seashore Charter Schools did a Beach Clean-up for Earth Day. How many students can say they walked to the beach for their field trip?



Cinco Log & Fish Festival will be held at the North Packery Jetty on Friday, May 4th and Saturday. The Surf & Yoga festival will include the Cinco de Mayo Surf Contest for surfers age 13 and up. There will be a registration party at Costa Sur Wok & Ceviche Bar starting at 6:30 pm.

Kidz Fun Party Pro uses favorite children's characters to entertain at birthday parties or other fun events. Some of the favorites are Bluey, Sesame Street, Spiderman, Ninja Turtles and Trolls. Islander Ari enjoyed the games he played with Paw Patrol on his 5th birthday at the Aruba Resort party room. An extra treat was his daycare teacher Miss Carmen being there who has been part of Island kids lives in her home for 37 years. Call 452-3140 to book your fun day.



KEDT-TV Championship Challenge Tournament finale featuring the Flour Bluff Hornets competing against the Tulsa Midway Warriors can be watched Thursday, April 25th at 7 pm. Congratulations to our Hornets that competed in the 24 team challenge and made it to the final two. The Flour Bluff Challenge Team is made up of Brannon Chapman, Tristan Corpuz, Mason Evans, Gloria Harris, and Kyle Xu.



The 6th Annual Birdiest Festival in America is Friday, April 26th - Tuesday, April 30th at the South Texas Botanical Gardens. They expect more than 200 birders from 30 states and Canada. Check out the 70 birdhouses that were created for the festival, attend lectures, shop the vendor trade show and more. There will be a \$2 Admission Community Day on Saturday 10 am - 5 pm.

Padre Island Charity Poker Run theme this month is Boot Scootin' so wear your favorite boots and hat. It will be held on Thursday, April 25th 6 - 9 pm. It begins at the Black Sheep Bistro then moves to the Boathouse where there will be a crawfish boil. The third stop is Salty Dolphin on Windward Drive and ends at the Angry Marlin.

Kemp's ridley sea turtle nesting season has begun so watch for them when driving on the beach and call 1-866-TURTLE-5 if you see one.

Calypso Drive & Dive at the old Sonic had a delay in opening due to the fire suppressant system automatically going off and the need to replace the chemicals taking 2 - 3 weeks. When they do open they will be serving fresh local seafood on their menu that means drum, snapper, etc.. There will be a bar inside and an outdoor

lounge area. The opening target date is the first week of May.

The How to Prepare Your Property Values free educational seminar by Michael Berlanga, CPA will be at the Island Presbyterian Church on Tuesday, April 30th 5:30 - 7:30 pm. One of the key features will be how to successfully protest your property tax vale. There is limited seating so reserve now at michael@re-now.net. The event is hosted by PIBA and MK Visual Communication.

The Texas Sealife Center will have a special Shred it and Protect the Environment event on Saturday, April 27th 8 am - noon. Coastal Financial will provide free on-site shredding for personal documents with a limit of five boxes per person. There will be food trucks and special guest Touche' the Turtle. They are located at 14220 SPID.

The Star Wars Day 5K Run (\$30) and 1K Kids Run (\$15) will be held on Saturday, May 4th 8am at the Briscoe Pavilion. It is a Flour Bluff High School Community Booster to raise funds to modernize the cafeteria. There will be a costume contest, caricatures by art students, face painting, music, prizes and more. They are seeking participants and sponsors. The link and QR code can be found on the school Facebook page.

The Island Cleaners owner does all kinds of alterations. She is normally at the second cleaners in Alice but sews for both. I got a jacket zipper repaired and wasn't even charged. Now that deserves a shout-out.

Random Stuff

Mr. Coffee Latte maker has made my morning coffee experience amazing with hot frothy milk to add to my coffee instead of cold milk. The coffee brew side makes a robust cup of coffee especially if you get a grinder and make your own fresh like I did for the first time. A cup of black coffee takes only two minutes so not that much difference from a Keurig in time but huge difference in flavor. I bought a bottle of Torani zero sugar vanilla syrup to add an occasional splash but not make it too sweet. The coffeemaker is surprisingly compact and also comes with a 22 ounce double wall insulated tumbler with straw to make iced drinks. Hmmm, Mother's Day is May 12th - just sayin'.



Packery Flats Beach Cleanup



Del Mar Volunteers



We are beyond grateful for the 60 volunteers that brought their "A-game" and collected nearly 1,000 pounds of trash on Saturday for our spring Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Program at Packery Flats on Mustang Island! Thank you for helping make our Coastal Bend a cleaner and healthier place for all to enjoy. See you at our next cleanup on September 28.

Upcoming Election Information

Important Dates

May 4th Uniform Election (Appraisal District, Banquete ISD, Bishop CISD, Calallen ISD)	May 28th Democratic and Republican Joint Primary Runoff Election
• Thursday, April 4th - Last day to register to vote.	• Monday, April 29th - Last day to register to vote.
• Monday, April 22nd - Tuesday, April 30th Early Voting	• Friday, May 17th - Last day to apply for ballot by mail.
• Tuesday, April 23rd - Last day to apply for ballot by mail.	• Monday, May 20th - First day of Early Voting.
• Saturday, May 4th - Election Day	• Friday, May 24th - Last day of Early Voting.
• Saturday, June 15th - Runoff Election, if needed.	• Tuesday, May 28th - Election Day

Nueces County Clerk Kara Sands

By Dale Rankin

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Sports Talk Special to The Island Moon



By Dotson Lewis

Some Olympics History



1940 Tokyo Olympics Flyer

Dotson's Note: The campaign to choose a city for 1940 began in 1932, with Barcelona, Rome, Helsinki, and Tokyo participating. Tokyo city officials suggested a campaign as a means of international diplomacy following Japan's alienation from the League of Nations due to the Mukden Incident, in which Japan occupied Manchuria and created the puppet state of Manchukuo. While both Tokyo officials and International Olympic Committee (IOC) representatives were behind the campaign, the national government, which was ever more interested in military matters, did not have any strong supporters for such a diplomatic gesture. In 1936, Tokyo was chosen in a surprise move, making it the first non-Western city to win an Olympic bid. Thanks to Bill Morgan and Wikipedia for the facts and photos contained in this report.

During the 1930 Far Eastern Games in Tokyo, Indian participants were spotted flying the flag of their independence movement rather than the flag of British India. This caused a complaint from the British Olympic Association. In 1934 Japan attempted to invite European colonies to the Far Eastern Games.



Souvenir Flag-1940

In Tokyo the main stadium was initially to be the Meiji Jingu Gaien Stadium, later used at the 1964 Summer Olympics, reconstructed to accommodate 100,000 spectators; however the Shrines Bureau of Home Ministry, which had jurisdiction over the Meiji Jingu precinct, strongly opposed the reconstruction. Subsequently, a new stadium was planned at the Komazawa Olympic Park, away from the city center. The Olympic Village was to be built on the present sites of Kinuta Park or Todoroki Gorge. A schedule was drawn up, and guidelines were printed in four languages. Monthly magazines and posters were printed and distributed internationally. Construction began on some buildings, and arrangements were made with hotels, travel agents, and airlines for easy access.

When the Second Sino-Japanese War broke out on July 7, 1937, Ichirō Kōno, a member of the Imperial Diet (legislature), immediately requested that the Olympics be forfeited. The 1938 Far Eastern Games were also canceled, but Japan's IOC delegates persisted under a belief that the war would soon be over. Amid the intensification of the war, the feasibility of both the Summer Olympics and the 1940 Winter Olympics grew increasingly questionable to other countries, who suggested a different site be chosen and spoke of the possibility of boycotting the Games were they to proceed in Japan.

In March 1938, the Japanese provided reassurances to the IOC at the organization's Cairo conference that Tokyo would still be able to serve as the host city. However, many Diet members in Japan had already openly questioned hosting the Olympics in wartime, and the military was demanding that the organizers build the venues from wood because they needed metals for the war front. In July, a legislative session was held to decide the matters of the Summer and Winter Olympics and the planned 1940 World's Fair all at once. The World's Fair was only «postponed», under a belief that Japan would be able to wrap up the war, but the Olympics could not be moved and was canceled.

Kōichi Kido, who would later be instrumental in the surrender of Japan in 1945, announced the forfeiture on July 16, 1938. He closed his speech saying, «When peace reigns again in the Far East, we can then invite the Games to Tokyo and take that opportunity to prove to the people of the world the true Japanese spirit.» This would come to pass in 1964.

Despite the cancellation of the 1940 Olympics, the Tokyo organizing committee released its budget for the Games. In a departure from standard practice, the budget included all capital outlays as well as direct organizing costs. The total budget was ¥20.1 million, one-third of which would have been paid by the Tokyo metropolitan government.



Above, equipment manufactured by Yle, the Finnish broadcasting company, and AEG for the purpose of broadcasting coverage of the 1940 Games

Helsinki And Other Competitions

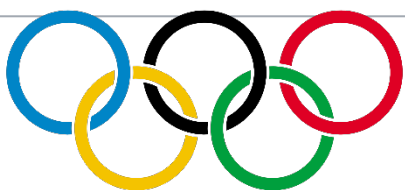
The IOC then awarded the Games to Helsinki, Finland, the city that had been the runner-up in the original bidding process. The Games were then scheduled to be staged from July 20 to August 4, 1940. The Olympic Games were suspended indefinitely following the outbreak of World War II and did not resume until the London Games of 1948..



With the Olympics canceled, the major international athletics event of the year turned out to be the annual Finland-Sweden athletics international, held at the new Helsinki Olympic Stadium, exceptionally held as a triple international among Finland, Sweden and Germany.

Gliding was due to be an Olympic sport in the 1940 Games after a demonstration at the Berlin Games in 1936. The sport has not been featured in any Games since, though the glider designed for it, the DFS Olympia Meise, was produced in large numbers after the war.

Meanwhile, Japan hosted the 1940 East Asian Games in Tokyo, with six participating nations. During August 1940, prisoners of war celebrated a “special Olympics” called the *International Prisoner-of-War Olympic Games* at Stalag XIII-A in Langwasser, near Nuremberg, Germany. An Olympic flag, 29 by 46 cm in size, was made of a Polish prisoner's shirt and, drawn in crayon, it featured the Olympic rings and banners for Belgium, France, Great Britain, Norway, Poland, and the Netherlands. A feature film, *Olimpiada '40*, produced by the director Andrzej Kotkowski in 1980 tells the story of these games and of one of the prisoners of war, Teodor Niewiadomski.



Dotson's Other Note: Helsinki would eventually host the 1952 Summer Olympics. Tokyo would also later host the 1964 and 2020 Summer Olympics, the latter being postponed to 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is my semi-expert opinion that the 1964 and 2020 (aka: 2021) were the best two overall Olympics in history.

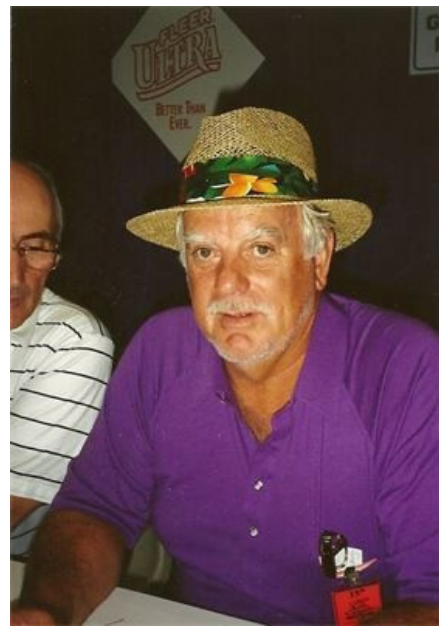


By Andy Purvis

A True Story

Pitcher Gaylord Perry was a master of making hitters look foolish. Over his 20-year career on the mound, Perry became the first pitcher to win the Cy Young Awards in both the National League and American League. He also won over 300 games. As a five-time All-Star who played for the San Francisco Giants, Cleveland Indians, San Diego Padres, Texas Rangers, Atlanta Braves, Kansas City Royals, Seattle Mariners, and New York Yankees, he is best remembered for how bad he made hitters feel in the batter's box. Most everyone during his era knew that Perry was using an illegal substance on the baseball to throw a “spitball,” but none could ever prove it. Umpires checked his hat and uniform but found nothing. They made him pull his pants legs up over his knees. They wiped his face and neck with a towel looking for lubricant. A's manager Dick Williams demanded Perry be stripped searched and ordered to change jerseys. Yankees Billy Martin once brought a bloodhound to a game to sniff baseballs when Perry pitched against his Yankees. Perry was checked over and over by umpires throughout his career, but was only ejected once on August 23rd, 1982, by umpire Dave Phillips. Perry knew that the very suggestion of his throwing a spitball gave him a mental advantage over hitters, so he toyed with his opponents. Before every pitch, Gaylord entered into a routine of touching his fingers to the bill of his cap, then wiping them across the hair behind his ears, and then touching his fingers to different parts of his uniform, all the spots where Vaseline or some other substance could be concealed. This routine drove managers and hitters crazy. Often after striking out on a pitch that moved like a spitter, opposing batters would yell at Perry as they stomped back to the dugout in anger.

For all of Perry's success on the mound, he hardly made a mark at the plate, becoming one of the worst hitting pitchers of his era. In 1963, as a rookie pitcher for the San Francisco Giants, skipper Alvin Dark was asked by sportswriter Harry Jupiter about Perry's ability to hit home runs. Dark turned to Jupiter and said jokingly, “They'll



Gaylord Perry

put a man on the moon before Gaylord Perry hits a home run.” Interestingly, in the late 1960s, Perry's batting average hovered around the low .100s, with no home runs hit and only 13 RBI's recorded. On July 20, 1969, Gaylord brought an 11-7 win-loss record into his start against the Los Angeles Dodgers and starter Claude Osteen. More than 32,000 fans showed up for the 1 p.m. start. Amazingly, just seven minutes after Gaylord's first pitch, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin landed on the lunar surface. Approximately 25 minutes later, Gaylord stepped to the plate against Osteen and drilled a shot to centerfield that, to his amazement, cleared the wall. It was his first, and one of only six home runs he'd hit in his 22-year Hall of Fame career. In 1983, Perry retired with 314 career wins, placing him in the top 20 in baseball history. He struck out 3,534 hitters and threw one no-hitter in 1968. Gaylord Perry was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1991. Gaylord Perry died of natural causes on December 1, 2022, at the age of 84. A true story!

Andy Purvis

Padre Island National Seashore announces \$153,000 project to analyze rising sea level impacts on sea turtles

Padre Island National Seashore has secured an additional \$153,000 in project funding from the National Park Service Natural Resource Fund Source to investigate the impacts of sea level rise on sea turtle nests. The research will allow park scientists and partners to assess coastal impacts from climate change and the effects of nuisance flooding on nesting sea turtles, including the endangered Kemp's ridley.

The National Park Service will partner with Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (TAMU-CC) on the field research. TAMU-CC will measure the sea level and the park's coastline using mobile LiDAR surveys during the summer of 2024 sea turtle nesting season. Data collected will be used to develop a risk assessment model that will quantify inundation risk for sea turtle nests.

This project is part of a comprehensive effort to better understand and protect the endangered Kemp's ridley sea turtle population that use the park as a nesting ground. This new study will compliment [two other recently federally-funded](#) projects that also focus on Kemp's ridley sea turtle protection and management. The first project provided \$200,000 to the U.S. Geological Survey to

determine survival rates and resource use patterns of the endangered Kemp's ridley sea turtle. The second provided \$100,000 to research the emerging incidence of fibropapillomatosis, a wildlife disease, in Kemp's ridley sea turtles.

Padre Island's Division of Sea Turtle Science and Recovery focuses on the protection and conservation of five species of sea turtles - Kemp's ridley, green, loggerhead, hawksbill, and leatherback. Its work is an important part of global efforts to save sea turtles and the park is proud to partner with the many volunteers, organizations, and local community to help recover these iconic species.





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Island Outdoors



By Jay Gardner

On the Rocks

The Island was all a-buzz last weekend with a report of a manatee in the canal system. As I have written many times in the past, this was to be expected with the new bridge and the connections that the two developers have made with the old canal system. Manatees have been showing up along our coast for many years as they migrate between the freshwater springs in Florida and the cenotes in Mexico and Caribbean. But you loyal readers already know that.

Merge for Manatees

Here are some of the conservation measures from the USFWS when you encounter a manatee in our local waters. Rule #1 is do not feed or water the manatee. I've seen some "suggestions" on social media contrary to this first rule, and in today's environment with cell phones and social media; you could get someone knocking on your door pretty quickly by not following that rule implicitly. If you're doing any work in the area (dock pilings, dock work) and a manatee wanders into your work area, knock off until it moves through. If you see a manatee while boating, maintain at least 50 feet buffer from it and put your boat in neutral. You might even be nice and alert other boaters in the vicinity to do the same.

Rare and Beautiful Birds

Speaking of visitors, the fallout we had earlier in the week was a little different than most fallouts we've witnessed. Due to the severity of the northwest wind, birds that were coming across the gulf barely made it to land. I wonder how many didn't make it across the gulf. Anyway, reports started rolling in around the Island that they were all here, and Heather had a Lazuli bunting in her yard, which is a rare visitor. These birds are typically west of the Rocky Mountains, but will occasionally be seen moving through here as a few were in different locales. We have piles and piles of Indigo and Painted buntings, but this one is a bit different. So if you see a group of bunting, make sure to glass each one.

See them while you can

So, the birds slowly spread from the Island to town and beyond. I had been feeding heavily (oranges, suet, sunflower seeds) and they finally got to my place the other morning. I had Baltimore orioles and grey catbirds by the dozen, but they literally were moving north. None of them stuck around at all. I went to Blucher Park downtown during a lunch break, and that was a complete bust. First of all, they are doing street construction on three sides of the park, so it's difficult to get in and out. The only way in is through Kinney Street (if you're going). I did see one American redstart, a chat, northern waterthrush, and a couple of catbirds, besides the homeless man sleeping on the bridge. The issue is that the mockingbirds were heavily defending the mul-

berry tree, as I noticed several nests being built. The lack of other birders should have been my sign, but I had to go look.

Unusual Migration

Birdcast showed that there were over 380 million birds on the move the other day, so that fallout may have occurred during the peak of migration. The weather looks like it's going to be a strong southeast wind for the foreseeable future, so any birds that migrate from down south will likely be flying over our heads while we sleep. Some will still be around, so don't put the binos away yet. But, it's been a weird season.

Go with the winds of change

Well, speaking of the southeast wind, it's going to crank up for a bit it looks like. The loop current calved a couple of eddies, which has started to put a little sargassum on the beach for the first time in what seems like a decade. Not that I'm complaining, mind you. High tides will also become the norm, and beach driving will dust out. I think a skate park on the Island would be a good thing. The boys will be in town from Cali this week, and we will be hitting the birding spots heavily for a few days. Say hi when you see us at the Willows or out in Port A. Drop me a line at tarponchaser@mail.com and we'll see you next week On the Rocks.



Construction in Blucher Park



Rose breasted Grosbeaks like to eat oil and striped sunflower, sunflower chips, safflower, cracked corn, Bark Butter®, Bark Butter Bits, suet dough, peanut pieces, fruits. Photo by Riekie Roncinski

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Backwater Adventures

By Joey Farah
Farah's Fishing Adventures

We finally have passed the Big Spring Winds and Low tides. My ears have been ringing and my knees hurting from being on the water every day in 35 mph plus winds. It's finally calming down and the warmth of summer is sneaking in on us every day. Our water quality has improved greatly with a good flush of positive tidal movements as well. I'm ready for some summer rays of sunshine to brighten my days and heal all of my wounds of late.

Live bait flags are starting to stay up and even turn to yellow, this signifies the availability of live croaker. This popular baitfish is very effective when hunting specks but the problem is they target the larger spawning fish. With our slot limit on trout being 15"-20" fisherman using them should be careful to try not to injure gamefish taken but over the size limit. Circle hooks between #5-#6 are a great way to insure every hook up is in the mouth and not swallowed.

Thick in the flats...

Redfish have been thick in the flats and back lakes of Shamrock Cove and Mustang Island! Walking in or drifting in a boat these back lakes have been on fire for hood slot reds. Gold spoons, small 3" DOA CAL SHADS, and DOWN SOUTH KURES KEY LIME PIE HAVE BEEN MY FAVORITE BAITS. Tide can play a big role in these areas and a high tide over a few days will really stack them up in those back shallows. Way down south schools of scattered redfish are all over NINE MILE HOLE. This enormous area is a vast shallow grassy area that is famous for redfishing. You can choose to



This Mid-Day over slot trout took a dark BLOODSHAD DOA 5.5"jerk bait. Fishing shallow sand pockets in the Boat Hole north of the JFK Causway

FLOUNDER are coming back into the back bays, we are finding them in the shallow sand pockets along shorelines, and in the Gulf Passes in Port A and PACKERY.

wade in shin deep water or drift from a shallow water boat. We pull in and spend the day drift fishing, sight casting, and having a blast with friends and family on my boat. I've been throwing a small DOA 3" paddle tail on a larger 1/4oz jig head so I can cast a mile and work it with a very quick retrieve.

Big trout and a full moon...

Those big trout are still spawning under this full moon, and we have caught some really nice ones along the King Ranch Shoreline, in the Land Cut, and along the Kennedy Shoreline in Baffin Bay. Presenting soft plastics in 2- 4 feet of water where you can find scattered mixed grass and sand pockets. Laying your bait softly and realistic in these sand pockets is key. I watched a guest work his lure in circles with rough angles for hours even with instruction. Once he got the gentle touch down and used the tip of his rod to present the bait in a natural swim action he laid his hands on some beautiful mature specks. Anyone can crank and reel, it's the art of working a lure that gives strikes consistently. It's the feeling of becoming the bait, watching and matching the strokes of your rod and bait. Once you have lost yourself in that game, the strike comes from the sand pocket you predicted action from and suddenly all of your stress and worries have vanished. You are deep in mind, under the surface of the sea. Fortunately I get to step away from that each day, free my soul with each sunrise. I'd love to invite you all to share a day on the boat learning and sharing the ways of fishing our back bays. Follow all of our adventures on Facebook and Instagram at Joey FARAH'S Backwater Fishing. 361-442-8145

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14911 Village Beach Dr. 2/2 gorgeous poolside townhome just a quick walk to the beach! 1041 sq. ft. & fully furnished. **\$419,000.** Call **Kim Mogford** at 361-434-8522.



5930 Tapestry Dr. Beautifully kept 3 bed, 2 bath, with a 2 car garage. Nice semi open floor plan, with cozy living spaces. All 3 beds have walk in closets. **\$299,900** Call **Charlie Knoll** at 361-443-2499.



15005 Windward Dr. #214 Fully furnished 2 bed, 1 bath, 955 sq ft Surfside Condo walking distance from the beach/seawall. **\$237,000** Call **Madeline Casey** at 361-443-0687.



14920 Packery View Loop 4 bed/ 4 bath 3-story townhome with views of the Gulf. Completely furnished. **\$585,000** Call **Kim Mogford** 361-434-8522.



14878 Granada Dr. #504 3 bed, 2.5 bath, & 1 car garage. Fantastic location, walking distance to the beach. This property has the coastal feel! **\$429,900** Call **Charlie Knoll** at 361-443-2499.



13969 Lanyard 4/3/2 2,540 sq.ft., stainless appliances, quartz & tile throughout plus lots of extras. **\$585,000** Call **Randy Corpuz** 361-765-9914 or **Charlie Knoll** 361-443-2499.



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13801 Captains Row - Exceptional custom home, 151' canal front at fingertip of gated st. Elevator, pool, 2 lifts, sunset over ICW **\$1,750,000.** Call **Pam Morgan** at 361-215-8116.



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14802 Whitecap Blvd. #203 2/2 and only feet from the beach! Great views. Completely furnished. **\$349,000** Call **Kim Mogford** at 361-434-8522.



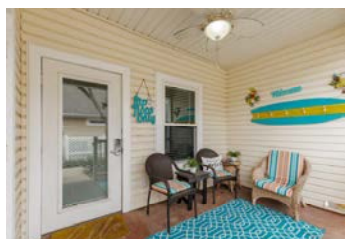
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14300 S Padre Island Dr. #214 Waterfront 2 bed/1 bath condo with amazing views! Fully furnished. **\$199,900** Call **Kim Mogford** at 361-434-8522.



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Earth Day Drone pic. Photo by Thomas Field



Earth Day 2024. Photo by Ronnie Narmour



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Sandfest 2024 Port Aransas



Slava Borecki, sculpture entitled *The Grandmother*. Photo by Debbie Noble



Sand Cats by Remi and Paul Hoggard of Burgas, Bulgaria. Photo by Neesy Tompkins



The Dude showed up to SandFest 2024. Photo by Jace Tunnell



Seveline Beauregard & Joris Kivits, *Symbiosis*

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Thoughts from Reverend Ken

By Rev. Dr. Ken

Recently I asked our fifteen-year-old grandson what he wanted to do when he grew up. He wasn’t sure. He thought maybe a video game designer. That made sense to me. He’s played in some national team computer game tournaments.

When I came out of high school, I thought I wanted to be an architect. I soon realized I lacked artistic talent. My wife Barbara wanted to be an archeologist. We still seek out ruins when we travel. I’m now a pastor and she is a psychotherapist. Hmm.

I recently saw a study that said 57% of Gen Z (Born 1997-2012) youth would like to become an influencer. 41% of all adults would opt for this emerging career path. Wow! I consider myself a student of culture, so I know about influencers. However, I am a bit surprised by how many people want to be influencers as a career.

For the uninitiated, an influencer is a person who is able to persuade a lot of other people to do, buy, or use things. They come in many shapes and forms, from social media stars to bloggers and YouTubers. Influencers can earn money with sponsored promotions or be paid directly, depending upon the size of their following.

Influencers create and share content regularly on social media to establish their expertise and work to build a relationship with their followers. By regularly engaging with their audience and offering insightful content, creators can often influence their followers to try a particular product or behave in a certain manner.

If this sounds of interest to you, there are several articles on the internet that tell you how to do so. Like anything else you can find a sure-fire 3-5 step method through Google. Youth even can attend a camp to become YouTubers. Of course, the most important component to being an effective influencer is followers.

Kylie Jenner has hundreds of millions of followers. To make influencing a fulltime career, it is said that you need to have at least one million followers. Less than 1% of people ever achieve that. I have 702 friends on Facebook. I’m not on YouTube, Tik-Tok, or Instagram. My future as an influencer might be in doubt. Although, I can check with Dale on the circulation numbers of the *Moon*.



Sandfest Photo by Debbie Noble



Benjamin Probanza, The Watch of Life

City to Hold Community Input Sessions and Open House for Impact Fees

Topics include Roadways, Water, Wastewater, and Storm Water
Thursday, May 23, at Ethel Eyerly Senior Center

The City of Corpus Christi Development Services Department will hold a series of community input sessions to discuss impact fees for roadways, water, wastewater, and storm water as part of the Master Plan and Impact Fee Project.

Impact fees are upfront costs due when a new commercial development is built. In the past the funds from a new project were kept in abeyance to reimburse infrastructure for new, unrelated projects. That system has failed to keep up with the expense of new projects as growth across the city has accelerated. A new system is being developed which will be discussed at these meetings. The sessions will be held in each Council district. The community is invited to attend any of the open houses to give feedback on the impact fees. City staff and experts will be available to answer questions. Council Members may attend each input session. All sessions are from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The meetings will take place on the following dates

- District 1:** Thursday, June 13 at Owen Hopkins Library - 3202 McKinzie Road
- District 2:** Thursday, May 16, at Lindale Senior Center - 3135 Swantner Drive
- District 3:** Thursday, June 06 at Corpus Christi Water Building - Choke Canyon Room, 2726 Holly Road
- District 4:** Thursday, May 23, at Ethel Eyerly Senior Center - 654 Graham Road
- District 5:** Thursday, May 02 at Dr. Clotilde P. Garcia Library - 5930 Brockhampton Street

“By participating in community input sessions, residents play a pivotal role in shaping the trajectory of our city,” said Mayor Paulette Guajardo. “Their insight is integral to the decision-making process as we continue to be inclusive of the community.”

The City Council adopted the Master Plans and their associated Capital Improvement Projects in January, and impact fees are scheduled to go before the Council in July for consideration or adoption.

Reasonable accommodations are provided upon request and in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please call 361-826-3124 in advance for assistance or to request reasonable accommodation.

Friends of Padre and Seashore clean the beach



Monday, April 22nd , Earth Day, Friends of Padre hosted an Earth Day Beach Cleanup for Seashore Learning Academy. Thank you to all the kiddos, parents and teachers who came out to help keep our Earth and Beaches clean. Also, a big Thank you to the Up2U program for supplying us with trash bags for today’s event. Friends of Padre

Following the Flow: Study identifies the best habitat for yellowfin tuna



The University of Texas Marine Science Center Port Aransas – As any good angler knows, large pelagic fish are hard to track, and getting a grasp of their populations and the areas or habitats they prefer is even harder. In a new study released this month in [Scientific Reports](#), researchers combine an unprecedented and extensive data set of seven years of long-line catch data for the southern Gulf of Mexico with environmental data and statistical analysis to generate habitat suitability models, which provide a prediction of the oceanographic conditions favored by yellowfin tuna. Yellowfin tuna in the Gulf of Mexico is a very popular fishery in the United States and Mexico, supporting ~25% of the species’ annual global catch. Their study focused on mesoscale features, which are circulation structures spanning a few hundred kilometers. Researchers found that in the oceanic waters of the Gulf, yellowfin tuna preferred areas along the edges of anticyclonic eddies, which rotate clockwise, measure 100-200 km and are about 1000 km deep. These structures break off from the Loop Current when it enters the Gulf of Mexico through the Yucatan Channel and exits through the Florida Straits. Habitat suitability was also high between clockwise and anticlockwise mesoscale circulation features when they were close to each other. The margins of anticyclonic eddies bring nutrients to the surface, supporting plankton and congregating prey throughout the water column. The vertical shear along the edges of eddies may also reduce the drag and expended energy that tuna require when diving for that prey. Thus, the results highlight the yellowfin tuna’s affinity for anticyclonic eddies during their seasonal migrations within the Gulf of Mexico.

Habitat suitability was shown to vary seasonally; it was predicted to be higher in the central and northern Gulf of Mexico in winter and spring and higher in the southern Gulf during the summer and fall. This pattern likely reflects the seasonal migration of yellowfin tuna within the Gulf of Mexico, as documented in previous studies. Also, in the summer months, when the surface waters of the Gulf are very warm, habitat

suitability is higher in eddies that rotate counterclockwise; these structures are more productive, providing greater prey availability and are cooler below the surface than anticyclonic eddies.

Dr. Sharon Herzka, associate professor at the University of Texas Marine Science Institute and co-author, remarked, “Our research underscores the importance of understanding the dynamic nature of oceanic conditions when predicting yellowfin tuna distribution. By understanding the preferred habitat of tuna relative to mesoscale features and seasons across space and time, we can develop more effective fisheries management strategies to ensure the sustainability of this valuable fishery.”

The results of this study support continued and more effective management of the fishery. The implications of this research extend beyond scientific inquiry, offering a deep understanding of the main drivers of the yellowfin tuna distribution for fisheries management in Mexico and the United States. By incorporating dynamic environmental data into management practices, policymakers can better protect yellowfin tuna populations while supporting the livelihoods of anglers. As the temperature and current patterns continue to change in the future due to natural processes and climate change, the information on hot spots and habitat suitability will also help predict the fate of this valuable fishery.

Dr. Herzka is joined by the lead author Zuri-saday RamirezMendoza, Ph.D. student from Centro de Investigación Científica y de Educación Superior de Ensenada (CICESE), Oscar SosaNishizaki and Mario Pardo from CICESE, Michel DreyfusLeón from Mexico’s National Program for the Use and Protection of Tuna and Dolphins, David Wells and Jay Rooker from Texas A&M University at Galveston, and Brett Falterman from Fisheries Research Support LLC. Support for this work was provided by the Mexican National Council for Science and Technology, Mexican Ministry of Energy.

Sudoku

Sudoku answers are not available.
Play at your own risk!

Going Easy On You...

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

Knuckle-Cracker

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1								

Mind-Numbing Frustration

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Brain-Buster

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4		5						



Port Aransas and Padre Island represent in San Antonio Fiesta River Parade on Monday.

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Island Crossword

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Across

- 1. Provide, as light
- 5. An animated Simpson
- 8. First name in flops
- 13. Swivel
- 15. For each
- 16. Way around Paris
- 17. Annually
- 19. Part of a bouquet, perhaps
- 20. Bickle portrayer
- 21. Combustion byproduct
- 23. FBI ally
- 24. Hayseed
- 27. No longer attached
- 30. Letters angels love?
- 31. Restraints, as on spending
- 32. Tortilla, e.g.
- 34. Barrie buccaneer
- 37. Eminent
- 40. Harry Truman's birthplace
- 42. Hole-poking tool
- 43. Covered with soot, e.g.
- 44. Large hotel unit
- 45. It could be something of great interest
- 47. Turn around
- 48. Elevate
- 50. Symbol of sovereignty
- 52. Trippy letters
- 53. Diamond distinction?
- 58. Backwash creator
- 59. Put away safely
- 60. Price-regulating group
- 64. Honolulu hello
- 66. Some ships are built here
- 68. Counter complement
- 69. Barely manage (with "out")
- 70. Tuscany town
- 71. Packs down firmly
- 72. T. follower
- 73. Orderly

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			
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32			33		34		35	36		37		38	39
40				41		42				43			
44					45			46		47			
		48		49			50		51		52		
53	54				55	56				57			
58				59				60			61	62	63
64			65			66		67					
68						69				70			
71						72					73		

Down

- 1. Passed a certain limit
 - 2. Queen's domain
 - 3. Uniform
 - 4. Ancient architectural style
 - 5. Pet for King Solomon
 - 6. Beauty admirer
 - 7. Trial companion
 - 8. Vacating
 - 9. Emmy winner Ruby
 - 10. Completely motionless
 - 11. Bert's pal
 - 12. Like a friend in need
 - 14. Neophytes
- 18. Word in a letter closing
 - 22. Olive that goes with a little salt?
 - 25. Person always on the go
 - 26. Targets of some sprays
 - 27. Barn and screech, e.g.
 - 28. Munich Mrs.
 - 29. Clan's gathering place, perhaps
 - 33. Spot for a grill
 - 35. It sounds just like you
 - 36. Macaroni variety
 - 38. Outback avians
 - 39. Like Easter eggs
 - 41. Denials
- 46. Spencer or Dick
 - 49. Blaster's need
 - 51. Emulates a donkey
 - 53. Glide
 - 54. Historic conference site
 - 55. One beyond hope
 - 56. Suffering from insomnia
 - 57. Sink outlet
 - 61. It has bark with no bite
 - 62. Tony-winning dame
 - 63. Aspiring attorney's exam
 - 65. Hip chaser
 - 67. Annoy

Police Blotter April 16-April 22

JFK Causeway to SPID/Aquarius Intersection
Crimes against Person

- 13500 block SPID 1 pm April 16 Terroristic Threat
- Disturbances
 - 13300 block SPID 7 am April 19
 - 13500 block SPID 8 am April 18
 - 13500 block SPID 1 pm April 16
- Suspicious Person
 - 10800 block SPID 1 am April 22
 - 10800 block SPID Midnight April 22
 - 10800 block SPID 10 pm April 21
 - 10800 block SPID 5 am April 21
 - 10800 block SPID 5 am April 21
- Traffic
 - 31 Traffic Stops
 - 11800 block SPID 6 am April 16 DWI
 - 13500 block SPID 9 am April 22 Parking Violation
 - 13300 block SPID 8 am April 19 Crash
 - 13300 block SPID 9 am April 17 Parking Violation
 - 14000 block SPID 7am April 19 Crash

SPID West to Laguna Madre
Crimes against Person

- 13900 block Jibstay 1 am April 20 Assault
- Cruiser/Whitecap Blvd 9 pm April 16 Shots Fired/Deadly Conduct
- 15300 block SPID 8 pm April 20 Assault
- Crimes against Property
 - 14100 block Cabana North 1 pm April 22 Theft of Services
 - 15100 block Dory 5 am April 22 Theft of Services
 - 14400 block SPID Midnight April 22 Theft of Services
 - 14300 block Whitecap Blvd. 10 pm April 21 Burglary

- 15300 block Bonasse Ct. 8 pm April 21 Criminal Mischief \$750-\$2500
- 13900 block Binnacle Noon April 21 Burglary
- SH 361/SPID 7 pm April 20 Theft of Services
- 13600 block Moro 8 am April 20 Destruction or Criminal Mischief
- 13600 block Moro 11 pm April 19 Criminal Mischief \$100
- 14400 block SPID 9 pm April 18 Theft of Services
- 15900 block SPID 10 pm April 17 Trespassing

Disturbances

- 14100 block Cabana East 11 am April 22
- 14300 block SPID Midnight April 20 Noise Ordinance Violation
- SPID/Whitecap Blvd. 9 pm April 16 Fireworks
- 15700 block Escapade 10 pm April 18 Noise Ordinance Violation
- 15700 block Escapade 9 pm April 18 Noise Ordinance Violation
- 15700 block Finistere 8 pm April 18 Noise Ordinance Violation
- 15800 block El Socorro 11 pm April 17

Suspicious Person

- 14400 block SPID 2 pm April 22
- 15300 block SPID 1 pm April 16
- 15100 block SPID 11 pm April 16
- 15100 block Aquarius 8 pm April 16
- 15700 block Gypsy St. 3 am April 19
- 13700 block Cayo Gorda 6 pm April 17

Traffic

- 149 Traffic Stops
- 14200 block SPID 5 pm April 22 Crash
- SPID/Verdemar Dr. 5 pm April 22 Crash
- Whitecap Blvd/Bonasse Ct. 3 pm April 18 Parking Violation
- SPID/Whitecap 7 am April 17 Crash

- 15300 block SPID 2 pm April 16 Crash
- 15400 block SPID 1 pm April 20 Crash
- 15900 block Cabo Blanco 10 pm April 18 Crash

SPID East to Gulf of Mexico – north to the City Limits

Crimes against Person

- 100 block Zahn Road 6 pm April 20 Assault by Contact
- Crimes against Property
 - 14800 block Granada 5 am April 18 Trespassing
 - 100 block Zahn Road 6 pm April 20 Theft \$100-\$750

Disturbances

- 15800 block SPID 8 pm April 17 Fireworks
- 15200 block Windward 5 pm April 20
- 14900 block Whitecap Blvd. 10 am April 19 Public Intoxication/Under the Influence
- 14300 block Playa Del Rey Midnight April 21 Noise Ordinance Violation
- 7900 block Gulf Beach 11 am April 20 Found Narcotics

Suspicious Person

- 15700 block Gulf Beach 5 pm April 20
- 15800 block SPID 11 pm April 18
- Leeward Dr./St. Augustine Ave. 11 pm April 17
- 11000 block Gulf Beach 6 pm April 20
- 10700 block SH 361 2 pm April 19
- 11400 block Gulf Beach Midnight April 19
- 10700 block SH 361 2 pm April 19
- 6300 block SH 361 4 pm April 21

Traffic

- 53 Traffic Stops

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La Mer (The Sea) by Claude Debussy at the Corpus Christi
Symphony Orchestra this week.
By Evelyn Pless-Schuberth Untitled



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Crossword Solution

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E	V	E	R	Y	Y	E	A	R		P	E	O	N	Y
D	E	N	I	R	O		S	O	O	T		C	I	A
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S	T	O	O	L		E	K	E		S	I	E	N	A
T	A	M	P	S		R	E	X			N	E	A	T



Now that Kemp’s ridley nesting has begun, the yellow arribada flag will be raised at the Malaquite Visitor Center and on the parks turtle patrol vehicles when a Kemp’s ridley sea turtle is found nesting on any Texas beach. The flag serves as a visual reminder that because of the turtle’s innate tendency to nest in large groups, there will likely be other turtles nesting on the same day. When you see the turtle flag flying, use extra caution while driving on the beach and report any sea turtle sightings by calling 1-866-TURTLE-5 (1-866-887-8535).

Skipper Tales

The Siren’s Song

By Bob Skipper

I walked alone along the sand,
Of the Corpus Christi Bay.
With head bowed, below the clouds,
Of a damp, dark, dreary day.

The winds blew cold as on I walked,
Rain clouds covered the sand.
Then, down the beach, I heard a sound,
That seemed to cover the land.

Down the shore, I saw her,
A lovely lady standing alone.
Her azure blue eyes were glowing,
As she sang her siren’s song.

She touched my heart so gently,
From her lips came a luminous smile.
She motioned for me to join her,
To sit and talk for a while.

As we talked, I felt a solace,
I had never known before.
Sitting alone with a siren
On the Corpus Christi shore.

It’s been a while since I’ve seen her,
She brought a peace I’d never known.
She healed my heart with a promise,
And the sound of her siren’s song.



Squirly By Zachery Harris

Tides of the Week

26 Apr	27 Apr	28 Apr	29 Apr	30 Apr	1 May	2 May	3 May
Fri ↗	Sat ↗	Sun ↗	Mon ↗	Tue ↗	Wed ↗	Thu ↗	Fri ↗
7:35AM 0.61m	8:40AM 0.63m	9:53AM 0.64m	11:04AM 0.64m	11:59AM 0.62m	12:35PM 0.59m	12:53PM 0.54m	1:01PM 0.48m
10:47PM -0.07m	11:30PM -0.09m		00:22AM -0.09m	1:22AM -0.07m	2:31AM -0.04m	3:50AM 0.02m	5:17AM 0.09m
6:53AM 8:00PM	6:52AM 8:00PM	6:51AM 8:01PM	6:50AM 8:01PM	6:49AM 8:02PM	6:49AM 8:03PM	6:48AM 8:03PM	6:47AM 8:04PM
8:25AM 10:56PM	9:12AM 11:56PM	10:07AM	11:08AM 00:54AM	12:13PM 1:46AM	1:20PM 2:33AM	2:26PM 3:14AM	3:32PM 3:51AM
↻35	↻30	↻20	↻15	↻20	↻25	↻30	↻20

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Abe Waterman took first place in the Masters Solo division with his sculpture; Sweet Dreams Are Made of This. Photo courtesy of Texas SandFest.

This was a really great week for fun in Port Aransas. Me and my **Mermaid Gal** kept a fast pace going and took in a lot of cool stuff. For starters, it was *Texas SandFest 2024* and many people near and far descended on us for the three day event. It got windy and then it got cold and windy but the show did go on. We went out there early Sunday. Tracy and her colleague, *Rockstar Environmentalist Jace Tunnell* set up an educational display in a tent down in the kid’s area where they were giving sandcastle lessons. Tracy and Jace were doing their *Plastic Pollution* awareness deal where they teach the public about the *Nurdle Patrol* which they founded and has since gone global. I didn’t actually see any live music out there, per se, but I could sort of hear it from where we were. *SandFest* has really grown since me and **Janet Planet** ran the music tent about 15 years ago and certainly since it began in 1997. Today it’s big business. We love our *SandFest* and love the many hundreds of thousands of dollars it brings into our local economy not to mention their huge donations to many scholarship funds and nonprofit organizations in and around Port Aransas. My friend, professional sand sculptor **Abe Waterman** from South Padre Island won first place in the Master Solo division again this year with his sculpture “Sweet Dreams are Made of This”. Abe stays on top of the heap year after year. I kept looking for some of the other sculptors I know, **Amazing Walter**, **Carl Jara** and **Sand Feet**, but never saw them. I just don’t spend as much time out there as I used to in years past.

Earth Day Port A...



Port A Human Peace Sign founder and children’s book author Diana Aston was on hand for Earth Day in Port Aransas on Monday.

This Monday was national *Earth Day* and Port A celebrated as only Port A could... with a human peace sign on the beach. This tradition started in 2016 when local children’s book author, **Dianna Aston** organized the first one. It has since been left up to **Cara Rose** and the *Keep Her Wild* and *Port A Conservancy* folks to keep the flame alive. In short, old hippies are alive and well and could be found yesterday on the beach shooting peace signs and feeling the love. **Charlie Stovall** was the MC at the event and paid a touching tribute to our fallen angel, realtor **Mark Grosse**, who we recently lost to cancer. Grosse was a much adored soul who left a legacy of generosity and love. It brought a tear to all of our eyes. It was great to see Dianna who came down from Dallas where she teaches school and also **Janet Planet** was in town to settle her recently deceased brother’s affairs.

Scattered shots...

Most of the venues around Port A had their best foot forward last weekend being that it was *SandFest* and the money was here to afford higher profile bands. *Bron’s* brought down two beloved San Antonio bands that are popular here, **Ruben V** and **Chris Boss**. I’ve known

both of these fine fellows for many years and have nothing but good to say about both of them. They are both guitar wizards. Over at *Shorty’s* the jam band **Triptonite** and 80’s cover band **Dreaming in Color** played to big crowds. Even the Thursday show with **Selfie** was off the hook. At the *Gaff* our new favorite Cajun/zydeco band **Boudreaux and Pousson** had the party jumping last Friday. Those guys are superior entertainers... period. And finally I stopped in *Treasure Island* on Saturday to catch a set from **Splendiferous**. I’m a bit new to these guys. I saw them one time last year at *Bron’s* and was impressed... especially with that guitar players hair, which was a red afro. He played a righteous guitar too.



Funk Rock Stereo will play Treasure Island on Friday

DO NOT MISS LIST Coming this weekend...



Identity Crisis will play Shorty’s on Saturday.

For one thing, it’s *Fiesta* time in San Antonio, which is always an amazing event full of parades and big parties. I ran a couple of bars on the Riverwalk years ago and always looked forward to *Fiesta*. I even drove a “float” in the night parade one year with the **Jitterbug Webb** band playing on a flat bed trailer and a generator in the bed of the truck. I can’t believe the little old ladies in the *Fiesta* float committee went along with that one. We had the windows of the truck covered in tin foil and we were dragging beer cans behind us. I nearly got arrested in Alamo Plaza where all the news camera were when I jumped out of the truck and started conducting the band as they played *Down Home Blues*. The cop didn’t think it was too funny. I digress. Coming this Friday **Anna Wilson** and her band **Flying Free** are at *Bron’s*, the funky monkey **Funk Rock Stereo** with the golden pipes of **Art Barrera** will play *Treasure Island*, the **CBDB’s** with the great **John Elijah** will play *Shorty’s*- that’s a good show plus the *Gaff* has the *Rasta Cowboy* his own self, **Billy Snipes** performing. And finally on Friday the great husband-wife team, **Max and Heather Stalling** will play the great *Third Coast Theater* listening room in Port A. Coming this Saturday the jam band **Triptonite**, who just won *Bend Magazine’s* readers poll for “Best Band” in Corpus will show you why on *Shorty’s* stage. And over at the *Gaff* on Saturday, **Kip** and his new manager **Lee Harper** will host another installment of the WORLD FAMOUS BELT SANDER RACES at 4 PM followed on stage by **Coach Dude Dugan**. Elsewhere on Saturday the young grungers **Identity Crisis** is at *Shorty’s*, **Dreaming in Color** is at *Bron’s*, **Five Card Draw** will play *Treasure Island* and **John Cortez** will play the new karaoke/sports bar *Beach Bums*. Plus the *Austin Blues Fest* will be held in *Waterloo Park* this Saturday and Sunday.

And, that’s the truth



Flying Free will play Bron’s on Friday.



Billy Snipes will play the Gaff on Friday.



Heather and Max Stalling will play the Third Coast Theater on Friday

LIVE MUSIC TONIGHT

Friday, April 26
Fiesta Battle of Flowers Parade @ San Antonio
CBDB’s @ Shorty’s
Flying Free @ Bron’s
Funk Rock Stereo @ Treasure Island
Billy Snipes @ Gaff
Brad Etheridge @ Sand Bar
Max & Heather Stalling @ Third Coast Theater
Cleartones @ Terry’s Place
Cinnamon Shore
Jonmikael Mrez Band @ Riley’s Pub
Heavy Soul @ House of Rock
Raul Ayala @ Marker 12
Identity Crisis @ Pelican Lounge
Cruise Control @ Laguna Bob’s SPI
The Drive @ Retro Alley
Katz @ Annex
Dreaming in Color @ Executive Surf Club
Nu Metal Mosh Party @ House of Rock
Michael Anthony Perez @ Landry’s
Joseph Martinez @ Cassidy’s Pub
Jules Taylor @ Prime Steakhouse Whiskey Bar

Saturday, April 27
BELT SANDER RACES 4:00 @ Gaff
Jim Dugan @ Gaff
Five Card Draw @ Treasure Island
Identity Crisis @ Shorty’s
Dreaming in Color @ Bron’s Backyard
John Cortez @ Beach Bums
Billy Snipes @ Pier 99
Boudreaux & Pousson @ Dorados AP
Emo Night Tour @ House of Rock
Jesse Raub Jr. @ Brewster Downtown
Chainlinks @ Pelican Lounge
National Nobodyz @ Exchange
Latin Talk @ Rialto Theater AP
Cruise Control @ Laguna Bob’s SPI
Joseph Martinez @ Rockit’s
John Elijah @ Executive Surf Club
Robin Blue @ The Pearl
Lucky Dogz @ Hideout 35

Peter Salas @ Big Easy Rockport

Sunday, April 28
Austin Blues Fest @ Waterloo Park
Jim Dugan, Ty Dietz @ Shorty’s
Catfish Blues Jam @ Rialto Theater
Michael Burtt @ Pelican Lounge
Kevin Kurtz @ Executive Surf Club
Amy Speace @ Harbor Listening Room
Fulton

Monday, April 29
LILIAN @ House of Rock
Jerry Ward @ Pelican Lounge

Tuesday, April 30
Open Mic w/Rev Matt @ House of Rock
Los Locals @ Palm Republic
Billy Snipes @ Doc’s

Wednesday, May 1
Brad Ethridge OPEN MIC @ Gaff
Cleartone’s @ VFW
Born of Osiris, Attila @ House of Rock
Raul Ayala @ Pelican Lounge
Ty Dietz @ Vernon’s
Dave’s Duo @ Katz

Thursday, May 2
Selfie @ Shorty’s
Jam Night @ Exchange
Brad Brown @ Blackbeard’s
John Elijah @ Palm Republic

Friday, May 3
Jam Band @ Shorty’s
Tumble Dry Low @ Bron’s Backyard
Carson Miller @ Treasure Island
Thomas Michael Riley 17th Annual Music Fest @ Luckenbach
Ballyhoo, Joint Operation, Cloud 9
Vibes @ House of Rock
OTB @ BUS
Jonmikael Mrez Band @ Pelican Lounge
National Nobodyz @ Sugar Shack

Saturday, May 4
Thomas Michael Riley 17th Annual Music Fest @ Luckenbach

Bron’s BACKYARD

FLYING FREE
DREAMING IN COLOR
TUMBLE DRY LOW
JOHN CORTEZ
TRIPTONITE

APR 26
APR 27
MAY 3
MAY 4
MAY 10

Treasure Island

FUNK ROCK STEREO
FIVE CARD DRAW
CARSON MILLER
JAM BAND
TUMBLE DRY LOW

APR 26
APR 27
MAY 3
MAY 4
MAY 10

SHORTY’S

SELFIE EVERY THURSDAY

CBDB’S
IDENTITY CRISIS
JIM DUGAN, TY DIETZ
JAM BAND
TRIPTONITE
BOUDREAUX & POUSSEON

APR 26
APR 27
APR 28 & MAY 5
MAY 3
MAY 4
MAY 10

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