



Issue 973



The Island Moon

The voice of The Island since 1996

December 8, 2022 **Weekly**

www.islandmoon.com

Full Color Version available online!

FREE

27° 37' 0.5952" N | 97° 13' 21.4068" W



By Dale Rankin

The Island calendar hits its peak this Friday and Saturday as the 52nd running of the La Posada Lighted Boat Parades take to the water. If the weather predictions hold it may be the best weather for the parades in years especially since KRIS Weatherman Dale Nelson and Preston the Weather Dog will be leading the Saturday Parade. We should get the Weatherman's Special Dispensation! We want to send out a big Island thank you to Hilda Perez-Garcia and Bob Corbett who organized this year's event and all the other volunteers that made it happen. As you can see from the history story on this page the La Posada event is the longest-running of Island traditions and raises the most toys of any event in the state for the Marine Corps Reserve and marks the beginning of the Island Christmas Season. There will be seven collector boats in the parades which will be signified with amber-colored lights and those wishing to donate can signal to them with a flashlight during the parades.

Friday night

The Friday parade will start at the JFK Causeway and will move through the north end of the Island canal system. It will be televised live on KRIS 6 TV with broadcasters Pat Simon and Taylor Alanis going live along the Laguna Madre and Meteorologist Stefanie Lauber live from the Wilson's party on Jackfish. The Marines will be at the Jackfish boat ramp collecting toys on Friday. Hardknocks Sports Bar & Grill will host a watch party from 7:00-8:00 p.m. on all TV screens for those that do not want to attend the Friday parade live. For those who do want to see the parade in person the best viewing will be along the Intracoastal Waterway at Doc's Seafood & Steaks, Snoopy's Pier, and Marker 37 all of which will likely be crowded and parking may be an Island challenge so get there early.

Saturday

The Saturday parade can be viewed by the public at boat ramps along the route and from the west end of Whitecap Boulevard but once again finding a parking spot might be an Island Challenge.

A little Island advice...

For new arrivals to The Island we offer this advice developed through years of trial and error by long-timers and that is to identify which of your friends are throwing deck parties on Saturday, and there should be deck parties aplenty if the weather holds, and organize your parade-watching route so as to stay ahead of the procession as it moves through Island canals. There are few things as cold as a parade party after the parade is gone – there's a country in there somewhere or at least a country song – so when the last boat goes by hit the street and beat the lead boat to the next party. By the time you get to the last party the free shrimp will probably be gone and the bean dip will be a mess but, hey you get to see the boats again after enough eggnog you may not remember them from the last stop so it's like a whole new parade!

Moon Founder Mike Ellis used to say that Island deck parties are a lot like a seven-layer bean dip; when the party starts all the people huddle around with the people they know and the bean dip is still played in seven distinct layers, but by the time the last boat goes by everybody knows everybody at the party and the bean dip is one big lump of well, bean dip. For the parade routes and times see the schedule in this edition of the Island Moon.

We'll see you at the parades everybody so say hello if you see us Around The Island.

Flour Bluff Board passes Tax Hike

Nueces County Tax Assessor/Collector delays mailing tax notices citing possible legal action

By Dale Rankin

Three weeks after voters in Flour Bluff ISD turned down a request for a 7%, \$4.1 million tax increase the district's Board of Directors last week approved a 3% tax hike that according to district officials, along with an emergency declaration by the board due to winter storm Uri in February, 2021, will generate an additional \$1,966,531 for the district in the current fiscal year.

District officials said this week the additional money will be used for maintenance and operation expenses and will be a local match to bring in state revenue which will boost the district's total gain in revenue, with \$35.8 million in local property tax revenue, to \$49.4 million.

Under state law a school tax hike over 3.5% must be approved by voters and if an increase over that number is turned down by voters, as happened in November in FBISD, the district has the option of reverting to the 3.5% rate, known as the Voter Approval Rate. However, Nueces County Tax Assessor/Collector Kevin Kieschnick said Tuesday he believes the rate approved by the board exceeds the Voter Approval Rate by \$1.25 million and he will not mail tax notices until the expiration of a fifteen day

Bluff cont. on A4

City makes Buyout Offer to Emergency Management District #2

Employees would be hired by Corpus Christi Fire Department

By Dale Rankin

The City of Corpus Christi on Tuesday made an offer to hire the eleven members of the Nueces County Emergency Management Services District #2 (ESD #2) and roll its operations into the Corpus Christi Fire Department.

Corpus Christi Fire Chief Robert Rocha appeared before the Island Strategic Action Committee meeting Tuesday evening and outlined a plan that would effectively end the operations of the Flour Bluff based fifty-year old ESD #2 which pre-dates annexation of Flour Bluff by the City of Corpus Christi and make them part of the city operation.

Rocha said if the five-member ESD #2 board accepts the offer it would end the current system of dual fire departments funded by taxpayers in the ESD #2 district which covers Flour Bluff and Padre Island.

ESD cont. on A3



The EMD #2 firehouse at 337 Yorktown in Flour Bluff.



JFK Bridge going to Two Lanes through Spring Break 2023

Starting Monday, December 12, work crews will reduce the traffic lanes on the JFK Bridge to one lane in each direction through the beginning of Spring Break 2023, according to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).

Set up work on the \$9 million maintenance project on the bridge has been done in the overnight hours since December 1 and is scheduled for completion on Friday, December 9. As the maintenance work begins Monday traffic will be in one lane eastbound and one lane westbound on the north side of the bridge, which are normally the westbound lanes motorists use to travel to Flour Bluff.

The project is designed to maximize the life of the bridge and to reduce the overall life-cycle costs of the bridge. The work being done is on the bridge that spans the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, not the entire causeway, according to TxDOT officials. The construction is focused on the main span of the bridge and includes repair to the substructure, superstructure, and railing. Also, existing armor joints and bearing pads are being replaced and, lastly, a new concrete overlay travel surface will be applied to the bridge deck.

Rubber from World War II German Blockade Runner washed up on Local Beaches



Cargo from ship sunk off the coast of Brazil in 1944 makes its way to Padre Island

By Dale Rankin

Islander Nick Meyer travels down Padre Island National Seashore almost every day. He operates the Breakaway Tackle USA which specializes in making gear for surf fishing and his website is the eyes and ears for surf fishermen worldwide. So when he started seeing these dark colored bales wash up on PINS a few weeks ago he knew they were something new.

He soon found that officials at the National Park Service had begun noticing the same bales as far back as 2020 on gulf beaches from Florida to East Texas before finally making their way to local beaches carried by ocean currents. The park service found markings on the mysterious bales which they traced astonishingly back to World War II.

They were the cargo of the blockade runner the SS Rio Grande which was sunk 55 miles off the coast of Brazil on January 4, 1944. Unknown to the Allied Powers at the time the Germans were using the rubber to create

Rubber cont. on A3

Shark Attack!



Islander Jim Needham was bitten by a shark this week while surfing north of Packery Channel. Needham is a long time surfer, and had several puncture wounds to his foot but no permanent damage.

A little Island history

By Dale Rankin

The La Posada Lighted Boat Parades we have today began an informal gathering of a few Islanders in 1970 when Island houses were rare. The informal "parade" started with a group of friends then in 1974 it became an organized annual event in when a group of Padre Island boat enthusiasts decided to start an annual lighted boat parade.

The parade was begun to commemorate the search by Mary and Joseph for lodging as described in the Gospel books of the Bible when Bishop Thomas J. Drury from the Diocese of Corpus Christi blessed the boats as they set out going from house to house in their symbolic search for shelter. The boaters decorated their boats and sang Christmas carols at each stop. It wasn't until

La Posada Lighted Boat Parade



later years that the Toys for Tots drive was added. In the beginning the boats set out from the north end of Padre Island which was the only area developed. Then in the 1980s the event migrated to the Club House at Anchor Resort

which was the original home of the Padre Island Sailing Society, a group of sailing enthusiasts who liked the acronym. It was then annual event but still very informal.

Then in August 1996, the doors to the current home of the Padre Island Yacht Club, the two-story building at the west end of Whitecap was opened and that location became ground zero for the parade as boats line up in the water east of Whitecap and made the turn past the Yacht Club where the judges were located. This was the choice spot for parade watching as it is where the boats would make their promenade to impress the judges.

In the beginning there was annual funding for the parades from the

History cont. on A3



Business Briefs

The Gaff in Port A will host the World Minnow Racing Association "A Day at the Track" event. It will be held on Monday, December 12th 6 - 9 pm and they will be testing the waters to see if it will become a weekly event.



The 4th Annual Coastal Christmas Ice Skating Time will be held at the American Bank Center December 19th - 23rd. Monday - Thursday hours are noon - 9:45 pm and Friday 10 am - 4:45. There will be a DJ 8 - 10 pm. The cost for the 45 minute skating session is \$12 and includes skates.

The Port Aransas Christmas Boat Parade will be held in the harbor on Saturday December 10, 2022 starting at 6 p.m. There will be parking available at Fisherman's Wharf, Grumbles Seafood and Virginia's on the Bay for viewing the parade.

Ray Wylie Hubbard will be at the Third Coast Theater in Port A on December 16th and '17th

The JFK Bridge will go down to one lane each direction starting Monday, December 12 and ending at spring break.

The Beach Maintenance building on Commodores has been completed and will store about \$3 million of equipment that is currently kept outdoors.

Cub Scout Pack 949 will be scouting for food to assist the needy on Saturday, December 10th. They will be knocking on doors collecting non-perishable items or you can leave food on your doorstep. The streets they will be visiting are Halyard, Mizzen, Topsail, Hawksnest, Eaglesnest, Dasmarrinas, Barataria, Man o' War, Blackbeard, Primavera, Tajamar, Natal plum and Bay Bean. Other streets can donate at Island Baptist Church rear entrance.

The International Feline Showcase will be at the Omni Hotel downtown January 6 - 8 with more than 50 different breeds of cats.



Padre Island Holiday Art & Farmers Market will be held on Thursday, December 15th 4 - 8 pm at the Briscoe Pavilion.

The Corpus Christi Ballet will feature The Nutcracker at Selena Auditorium on December 10, 11, 17 and 18. There will be over 180 dancers and actors.

Don't forget to shop local for Christmas gifts at **P.I. Art Gallery**, Coastal Teak and Ace Hardware. Also gift certificates at Snoopy's, Doc's, Brooklyn Pie and Padre Pizzeria. **Celsita's Restaurant** drive thru window is now open at the back of the building.

Worldwinds Windsurfing at the Padre Island National Seashore is closed until mid-February.

Random Stuff

I have a very old toilet in my guest bathroom that had very bad hard water and rust stains that no cleaner would remove so I was going to replace it. Fortunately, I discovered the good old been around forever pumice stone. It requires a bit of elbow grease, not too much, to rub out the stains. Some timely advice for this time of year when guests arrive.



The pumice stone gets the Roxy Seal of Approval

The La Posada Boat Parade will be at Friday starting at the JFK bridge and going through the north side subdivisions with viewing area along Doc's, Snoopy's and Marker 37 and on Saturday starting at Tesoro both at 7 pm. The staging for the Saturday parade is at the canal along Tesoro. You can view boats that day from several boat ramps that day.

The La Posada Boat Watch Party will be on all of the television screens at Hardknocks on Friday, December 9th 7 pm when KRIS 6 broadcasts the parade live from the Snoopy's Pearl Oyster Bar.

Doc's Seafood and Waterline are now booking holiday parties for all size groups for lunch or dinner. Mention their ad in the Island Moon and get a discount.



Horses on the Beach has one hour horseback rides at 10 am, noon, 2 pm and a 1 1/2 hour sunset ride at 4:15 pm during the two week Christmas break. The rides are \$79 and \$109 for the sunset ride and age 6 and over can enjoy a ride. The off season hours are Monday - Thursday 4:15 only and regular hours on weekends. There is also a petting zoo on the premises. They offer gift certificates which would make a great gift for your visiting family or friends. Call 949-4944 to reserve a spot. They are located at 19136 Park Road 22.



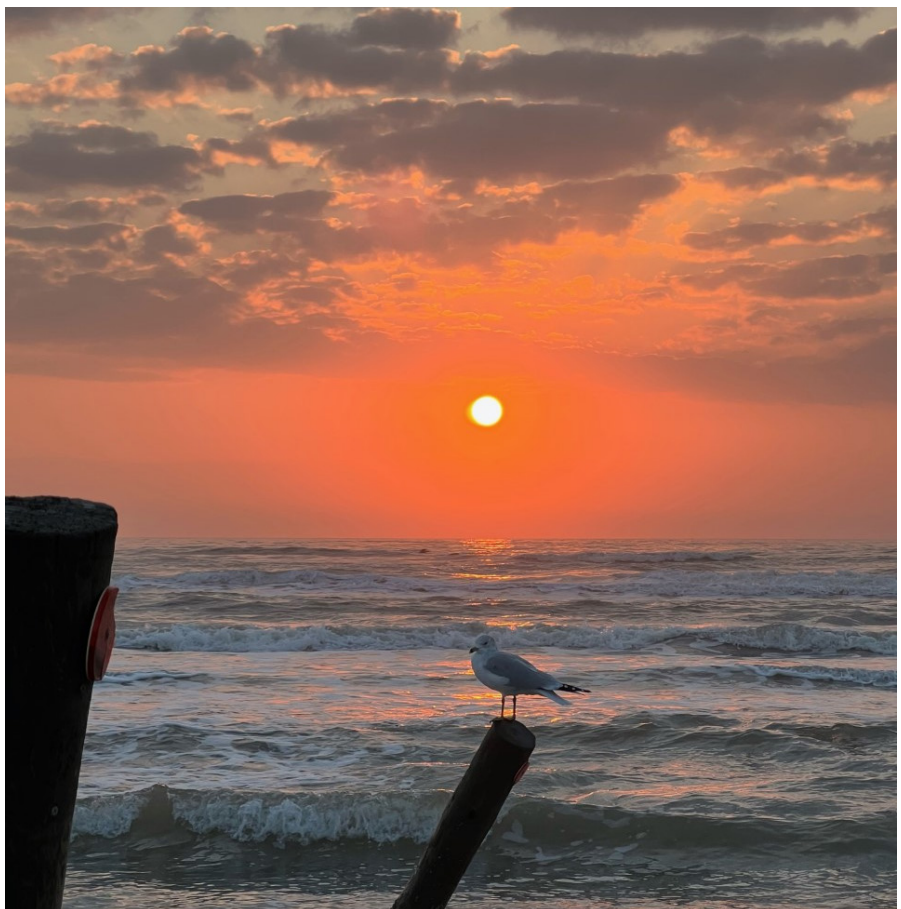
The Aransas National Wildlife Refuge has welcomed the arrival of the whooping cranes. The refuge has two observation towers, a 16 mile auto tour and eight walking trails. There is a 500 year old oak tree there and you may even spot an alligator.



The Riley P Dog Park is back on track to open! Thanks to Joe Minervini and Joe Brown for stepping in and taking charge of handling the mowing. We have purchased a large mower that can handle the maintenance of mowing the park. After two knee surgeries and a bout of pneumonia I have realized that I can no longer handle the park duties and my angels Joe and Joe have stepped in to help finish the park. A soft opening is planned for this Friday December the 9th. We need volunteers to step in and help them so please email Joe at jminervini4@gmail.com to see how you can help. It takes a village people. Jan Park



Black Bellied Whistling Ducks Photo by Jacob Augs



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Letters to the Editor

I AM WHEEL. HEAR ME SQUEAK.



PIPOA 2023 Board of Directors Election

In March of 2023, two (2) Board of Directors seats are up for election. The seats are currently held by Marvin Jones and Sandy Graves, respectively.

For Padre Isles POA owners wanting to run for the Board, the registration period opened on Tuesday, November 1, 2022, at 8:00 AM Central and will close on Thursday, December 15, 2022, at 5:00 PM Central.

Per the Bylaws, Board Members must be at least 18 years old and be members of the Association (own property in the PIPOA).

Interested members are asked to please send a notice and a brief resume, along with a picture, to the Executive Director, Gary Klepperich, gary@pipoa.net. Resumes may also be mailed to the PIPOA office or dropped off at the office, located at: 14015 Fortuna Bay Dr., Corpus Christi, TX 78418.

Candidate-submitted resumes will be published in a newsletter; be placed on the PIPOA's Facebook page and put on the PIPOA's website. The PIPOA will not proofread resumes prior to publication.

For questions, please contact the Executive Director, Gary Klepperich, at the email address above, or call 361-949-7025.

Thank you!

The Board of Directors

Padre Isles Property Owners Association

ESD cont. from A1

"There is a redundancy of fire services that you are paying taxes for," Rocha said. "What we have heard from people in Flour Bluff and on Padre Island is they are tired of paying for two, redundant fire departments. The ESD #2 right now does nothing but support the Corpus Christi Fire Department on calls. We want to absorb ESD #2 and its employees into the Corpus Christi Fire Department."

Rocha said ESD #2 currently has eleven employees which include seven line personnel which would be hired by CCFD and trained as Emergency Medical Technicians through the city's fire academy.

"All of our firefighters are dual trained as EMTs," Rocha said, "because 75 percent of our calls are medical."

Two clerical employees would be hired in the CCFD headquarters and the chief and assistant chief at ESD #2 would be hired to work through the transition to CCFD. He said the chief and assistant chief at ESD #2 cannot be hired for management positions at the city fire department due to the city's collective bargaining agreement.

ESD #2 is chartered under state law which give it taxing authority and under current state law the City of Corpus Christi cannot unilaterally disband the organization, the buyout offer

would have to be approved by the five-member ESD #2 Board of Directors which is appointed by the Nueces County Commissioners Court. Rocha said Tuesday that he has requested a meeting with the ESD #2 board in January. A similar offer was made by the city in early 2022 and was rejected in the form of a letter to the city from ESD #2 Chief Dale Scott. A 2020 audit of ESD #2 showed property tax income of \$1,079,348 and \$48,948 in operating revenue. A request by the ESD #2 for a tax hike was turned down by voters in 2021.

Rocha said the equipment housed at the ESD #2 station in Flour Bluff, along with the building land, would be purchased by the City of Corpus Christi including a boat and trucks for fighting brush fires and would be reassigned to city fire stations #15 and #16 located on Padre and Mustang islands.

"We have six stations in proximity to Padre Island," Rocha said, "but we see the value in having another station near the waterline in Flour Bluff. We also might be able to use the ESD #2 building."

"I expect there will some resistance from ESD #2," Rocha said.

Members of the ESD #2 board could not be reached for comment.

Loot from a Spanish Galleon is Still Out There in the Sand

By Dale Rankin

The year was 1853 and the Spaniards had mining gold in Mexico down. Chest after chest filled with gold coins were loaded from the white stone docks at Veracruz into the galleons waiting at the moorings. Gold and silver bars by the hundreds were piled high under the guard of Spanish soldiers.

Then it was provisions by the ton food to feed a thousand passengers along with crews and soldiers who would be returning home on the ships. Crates of live chickens, rows of overturned turtles with legs akimbo, jugs of wine and boxes of vegetables were on board for the 100 day journey on the floating treasure houses. Each of the treasure ships sailed like an overloaded houseboat carrying enough treasure to send a Dutch or English seadog into permanent retirement. There was little worry of highjacking as it was past the prime years of pirating on the Spanish Main. The return voyage home was a joyous one filled with days of merrymaking before setting sail.

The fleet stood out from Veracruz bound for Havana in the summer of that year with twenty ships in the convoy each glittering with fresh paint and presenting a majestic picture as they made their way across the Bay of Campeche and into Havana Harbor where they met with more galleons arriving from Cartageana. After a few days of celebration the fleet once again set sail for Bermuda with twenty ships with no idea what lay in store for them.

Of the twenty ships only three would reach Spain then only after months of uncertainty and fear. A fourth would make its way back to Veracruz with the sad news that the fleet had been caught in a hurricane in the Old Bahama Channel and blown back into the Gulf of Mexico. The ships ended up on a barren stretch of uncharted beach which they called Nuevo Santander and we call the Padre Island.

Their treasure was scattered along with the passengers. Three hundred survivors made it

to the beach alive and began the long, sad journey down the shifting sands south toward Tampico several hundred miles to the south. Only one of them, Padre Fray Juan Ferrer survived the trip. The rest either starved or fell victim to Karankawa Indians.

In 1554 the Spanish sent a salvage expedition which located the wrecks and did recover some of the treasure, however, for reasons lost to history, no maps were made of the wreck sites and they whereabouts went unknown until 1967 when a group of treasure hunters under the name of Platora Ltd. found one of the sites and began excavating a site just off the breakers six miles north of the Mansfield Cut. Uncertainties in Texas' antiquities law allowed Platora to work the site for more than a month before the state was able to step in and demand an accounting of the treasure. What was removed before that is unknown but what is known is the list items confiscated by the state.

A small, one-ounce gold crucifix of pure gold estimated in 1967 to be worth \$100,000, one gold bar weighing 7 ounces, three astralabs which are extremely rare navigational instruments (forerunners of the sextant), several crossbows, two small swivel guns/cannons, several other cannons including two six-foot falconettes, several silver discs with the larges weighing 29 pounds, anchors and chains, a large but undisclosed number of Spanish coins.

The remainder of the treasure is still there. Louis Rewalt who lived near the site for many years reported regularly finding gold coins and other items.

So for modern day treasure hunters equipped with metal detectors there is your target rich environment; happy hunting.



B El Galeón Andalucía. Contributed photo.

Rubber cont. from A1

the first stealth submarine which could not be detected by sonar at the time, the U-480 which was an experimental *Kriegsmarine* Type VIIC U-boat, which had already sunk four Allied ships off the coast of France.

The Germans had developed a 0.16 inch thick sheet of synthetic rubber coating which reduced sonar echoes by 15% in the 10 to 18 kHz range which matched the operating range of the early sonar used by the Allies. The rubber contained a series of holes, which helped break up sound waves. According to the *Naked Science* television episode "Stealth Submarine," U-480 had a perforated inner rubber layer covered by a smooth outer one which together formed air pockets with the right separation and size to muffle sonar waves. The rubber coating did not make the German submarine completely invisible to radar and the degradation in sonar echo reflection was not uniform at all diving depths due to the voids in the rubber due to compression at different depths caused by the varying water pressure. The rubber coating also acted as a sound dampener, containing the U-boat's own engine noises.

The technology was so secret that the Allies did not learn of the stealth submarines until the recovery of the wreck of U-480 in 58 metres of water off the Isle of Wight in the English Channel in 2007.

While he didn't know about the stealthy German submarine President Franklin Delano Roosevelt understood the importance of rubber to the war effort for both sides and stationed ships off the coast of Brazil to block rubber exports. That is how the destroyers USS Omaha and USS Jouett came to be stationed 55 miles off the coast of Brazil on January 4, 1944 as the SS Rio Grande, under contract with the German government, left the port loaded with bales of rubber bound for the German war machine and made its way toward the open Atlantic. It was intercepted by the two Allied ships and the crew was rescued before the ship was scuttled by the 72-man crew and then sunk by the guns of the two Allied ships.

The wreck of the Rio Grande was discovered in 1996 at a depth of 18,900 feet and according to Guinness World Records is the deepest shipwreck every discovered. It was from that point that the bales discovered by Meyer began their journey to Padre Island National Seashore.

Office Security/Spillage Control (Emeritus)

Riley P. Dog

Publisher

Dale Rankin

About the Island Moon

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History cont. from A1

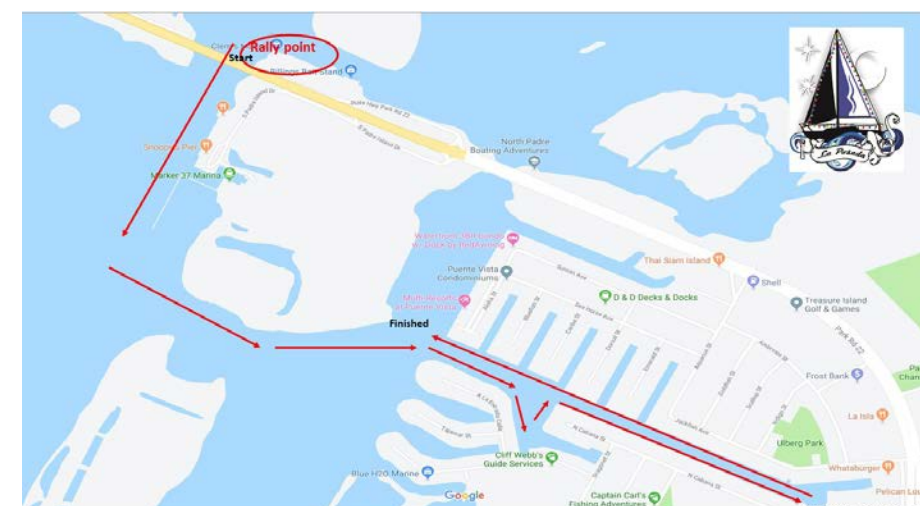
Padre Isles Property Owners Association. The money was used to pay various expenses and in some cases to help decorate boats and pay for trophies for the winners. Seashore Charter Schools became the host of the event partially because that is where the account for the event was kept, and Seashore kids began designing a new logo each year which was printed on tee-shirts sold to raise money and on Christmas ornaments made by the kids. That practice continued until 2010 when the school handed the reins to the Padre Island Yacht Club which handed it off as a separate to a not for profit organization in 2017. Along the way Toys for Tots was added as the event's charity and it has now become the largest toy-raising event in Texas. In 2009 the La Posada Kickoff Party was added and a number of events have been added since. In 2018 three big changes were made when a Grand Marshal was added, the Friday night parade route was extended to include the area near the JFK Bridge, and local television began broadcasting the Saturday parade live.

So when you take part in the La Posada Boat Parade you are helping to grow an Island tradition that began as an informal get together way back when a new home cost \$34,900, gas was 55 cents per gallon, inflation was 11%, and President Richard Nixon took his last ride in Air Force One.

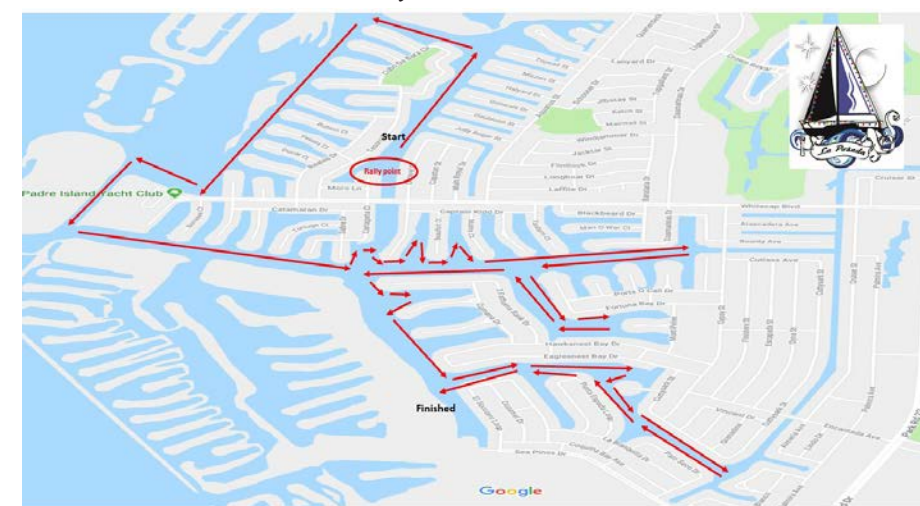


Schedule for 2022 La Posada Events

Friday	December 9	7:00 PM	Boat Parade	Packery Channel
Saturday	December 10	6:00 PM	Boat Parade	Caravel Boat Ramp
Sunday	December 11	8:30 AM	Breakfast for Marines & Load Toys – PIYC	
Monday	December 12	6:00 PM	Awards Presentation	PIYC



Friday Parade Route



Saturday Parade Route



Participant from the 2012 La Posada Boat Parade

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More Ways of Giving Back During The Holiday Season

December 5, 2022

With the holiday season upon us, it is important to remember there are many Coastal Bend residents that may need a helping hand this winter. In a previous article I discussed helping others through Toys for Tots. In this week's column, I would like to continue that discussion by sharing a few simple ways you can make a significant impact in the life of someone less fortunate this year. I have outlined some of the many giving opportunities available at Coastal Bend charities.

In South Texas, we face high winds and humidity that can be particularly grueling during the winter months, and making donations of such items as coats and blankets are especially important this time of year. As mentioned above, donating new or gently used coats, blankets, and other cold weather items is a way to help others stay warm this winter. Goodwill is a great organization that can help with these types of donations. You can find a donation location in your area by contacting them by phone at 361-884-4068 or visiting the local Goodwill website here: <http://www.goodwillsouthtexas.com/>.

With a diverse range of assistance programs that include Emergency Aid, Rural Outreach, Immigration & Refugee Services, Ministry & Life Enrichment for the Disabled, Healthy Living Center, and the Mother Teresa Shelter, Inc., the Catholic Charities offers a number of volunteer and donation opportunities. You can find out more about these services and how to get involved by visiting their website at <http://catholiccharities-cc.org/> or calling 361-884-0651. Catholic Charities - Corpus Christi is located at 615 Oliver Ct.

The Ronald McDonald House Charities in our area is another great charity that provides comfort and support for families with sick or critically injured children in many different ways. From donating clothes and 'wish list' items to volunteering your time, there are several ways to get involved as outlined on their website such as Administrative Program, the Share-A-Meal Program, Pop Tab, and the Share-A-Night Program. Due to COVID-19, the Ronald McDonald House is not allowing visitors. However, they do need volunteers to assist with delivering catered meals from a restaurant. Also, volunteer shifts have been temporarily suspended but you can donate items at yellow donation boxes throughout the Coastal Bend. A few items to donate to the donation boxes are brand new games, small toys, books, crafts, and clothing. To learn more about the Ronald McDonald House Charities, please visit their website at: <https://rmhcofcc.org/> or you can reach them by phone at 361-854-4073.

Additionally, there is The Helping Hands Food Pantry in Port Aransas which is operated by the Community Presbyterian Church. The Food Pantry provides perishable and nonperishable foods, personal care items, and diapers to anyone in need in Port Aransas. Donations of nonperishable items may be brought to the Community Presbyterian Church at 113 S. Alister St. Port Aransas, TX 78373. Checks can be made out to Port Aransas Food Pantry and mailed to Port Aransas Food Pantry, P.O. Box 147, Port Aransas, TX, 78373.

Rockport-Fulton Good Samaritans is an organization which was established by volunteers, built by volunteers, and manned by volunteers. It exists to help citizens of Aransas County. Good Samaritans gives out food, provides help with clothing, utilities, shelter, medical services, and many other needs. Rockport-Fulton Good Samaritans is located at 507 South Ann Street, Rockport, Texas 78382 and their phone number is (361) 790-9828. Also, their website is <http://www.rfgoodsam.com/index.htm>.

Whether it is through donating goods, contributing financially or volunteering your time, it is my hope that together we can find a way to make this holiday season a bit brighter for those in need.

If you have questions regarding any of the information mentioned in this week's article, please do not hesitate to call my Capitol or District Office. As always, my offices are available at any time to assist with questions, concerns or comments (Capitol Office, [512-463-0672](tel:512-463-0672); District Office, [361-949-4603](tel:361-949-4603)).

- State Representative Todd Hunter, District 32

Rep. Hunter represents Aransas County and Nueces County (Part). He can be contacted at todd.hunter@house.texas.gov or at 512-463-0672.

Serve Corpus Christi Your Chance to Make a Difference City of Corpus Christi Board Appointments for January 24, 2023, and January 31, 2023

The City of Corpus Christi has numerous boards, commissions and committees that strive to reflect our citizens' diverse interests and abilities.

The City Secretary's Office is currently seeking applications for the following boards. January 24, 2023 – The deadline to apply is January 10, 2023

- Marina Advisory Committee
- Watershore and Beach Advisory Committee

January 31, 2023 – The deadline to apply is January 17, 2023

- Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation
- Port of Corpus Christi Authority of Nueces County

If you know anyone interested in serving on a City board, commission or committee, please direct them to the City of Corpus Christi's website at <http://serve.cctexas.com>. For more information, contact Norma Duran at 361-826-3105 or e-mail at NormaD2@cctexas.com.

All individuals considered for appointment by the City Council to a board, commission or committee must have an application on file in the Office of the City Secretary not later than the 14th calendar date before the appointments are considered by City Council.)

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Senior Moments



Senior Moments Special to The Island Moon

By Dotson Lewis

Random Thoughts 81 Years After Pearl Harbor

Dotson Lewis

Senior Moments Special to The Island Moon
Random Thoughts 81 Years After Pearl Harbor

Dotson's Note: From the outbreak of World War II on September 1, 1939, to December 8, 1941, the United States was officially neutral, as it was bound by the Neutrality Acts not to get involved in the conflicts raging in Europe and Asia. Prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor, public opinion in the United States had not been unanimous. When polled in January 1940, 60% of Americans were in favor of helping the United Kingdom in the war. A majority of Americans believed that the safety of the United States was contingent on the UK winning the war; and an even larger majority believed that the UK would lose the war if the United States stopped supplying war materials. Despite this, the same poll reported that 88% of Americans would not support entering the war against Germany and Italy



Bob Batterson*-1941

Public support for assisting the United Kingdom rose through 1940, reaching about 65% by May 1941. However, 80% disapproved of war against Germany and Italy. The only areas where most people favored formally going to war against Germany and Italy were a few western states and southern states. Over 50% of those polled in Wyoming said "yes" when asked if the United States should formally enter the war on Britain's side. The state of Tennessee, the Tennessee Valley region of North Alabama, all of Georgia and the regions of Western North Carolina, Eastern North Carolina, the South Carolina Lowcountry, the Pee Dee region of South Carolina and Upstate South Carolina were all considered "hot-beds of Anglophili sentiment" before Pearl Harbor.

Americans were more unsure on the prospect of conflict with Empire of Japan around the same time frame. In a February Gallup poll, a majority believed that the United States should intervene in Japan's conquest of the Dutch East Indies and Singapore. However, in the same poll, only 39% supported going to war with Japan, while 46% opposed the prospect. Japan Views
On December 8, 1941, Japan declared war on the United States and the British Empire. The Japanese document discussed world peace and the disruptive actions of the United States and the United Kingdom. The document stated all avenues for averting war had been exhausted by the government of Japan. Although the Imperial Japanese government had made some effort to prepare their population for war by anti-American propaganda, it appears most Japanese were surprised, apprehensive, and dismayed by the news they were now at war with the U.S., a country many of them admired. Nevertheless, the people at home and overseas thereafter generally accepted their government's account of the attack and supported the war effort until their nation's surrender in 1945.

Japan's national leadership at the time appeared to have believed war between the U.S. and Japan had long been inevitable. In any case, relations had already significantly deteriorated since Japan's invasion of China in the early 1930s, which the U.S. strongly disapproved of. In 1942, Saburō Kurusu, former Japanese ambassador to the United States, gave an address in which he talked about the "historical inevitability of the war of Greater East Asia." He said war had been a response to Washington's longstanding aggression toward Japan.



Some of the provocations against Japan that he named were the San Francisco School in-

cident, the Naval Limitations Treaty, other unequal treaties, the Nine Power Pact, and constant economic pressure, culminating in the "belligerent" scrap metal and oil embargo in 1941 by the United States and Allied countries to try to contain or reverse the actions of Japan, especially in Indochina, during the expansion of influence and interests throughout Asia. Japan's dependence on imported oil made the trade embargoes especially significant. These pressures directly influenced Japan to ally with Germany and Italy through the Tripartite Pact. According to Kurusu, the actions showed that the Allies had already provoked war with Japan long before the attack at Pearl Harbor and that the U.S. was already preparing for war with Japan. Kurusu also stated, falsely, that the U.S. was looking beyond just Asia to world domination, with "sinister designs". Some of that view seems to have been shared by Adolf Hitler, who called it one of the reasons Germany declared war on the United States. He had many years earlier mentioned European imperialism toward Japan. Therefore, according to Kurusu, Japan had no choice but to defend itself and so should rapidly continue to militarize, bring Germany and Italy closer as allies and militarily combat the United States, Britain, and the Netherlands. Japan's leaders also saw themselves as justified in their conduct, believing that they were building the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere. They also explained Japan had done everything possible to alleviate tension between the two nations. The decision to attack, at least for public presentation, was reluctant and forced on Japan. Of the Pearl Harbor attack itself, Kurusu said it came in direct response to a virtual ultimatum from the U.S. government, the Hull note, and so the surprise attack was not treacherous. Since the Japanese-American relationship already had hit its lowest point, there was no alternative. In any case, had an acceptable settlement of differences been reached, the Carrier Striking Task Force could have been called back.



USA On the European Front

The attack on Pearl Harbor immediately united a divided nation. Public opinion had been moving towards support for entering the war during 1941, but considerable opposition remained until the attack. Overnight, Americans united against the Empire of Japan in response to calls to "remember Pearl Harbor!" A poll taken between December 12–17, 1941, showed that 97% of respondents supported a declaration of war against Japan. Further polling showed a dramatic increase in support for every able-bodied man serving in the military, up to 70% in December 1941.



*Captain Bob Batterson-United States Navy Retired, currently resident of Corpus Christi, TX
Dotson's Other Note: The attack also solidified public opinion against Germany, which was believed at the time to be responsible via inspiration or organization for the Pearl Harbor attack. A Gallup poll on December 10, 1941 (a day before Germany would declare war) found that 90% of respondents agreed with the question "Should President Roosevelt have asked Congress to declare war on Germany, as well as on Japan?" with 7% opposed. After the German declaration was unanimous.

Comments are welcome to the Editor of The Island Moon or to me at Mobile: 530-748-8475 or at dlewis1@stx.rr.com. FOR YOUR INFORMATION: The weekly Veterans Round Table meetings are on Tuesdays 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

Once upon a time there was an establishment called Mel's Place and it was run by Mel. It was in San Antonio at the intersection of Grayson and Broadway streets literally under the freeway and across the street from what is now referred to as the high-tone Historic Pearl District but there was nothing pretentious about Mel or Mel's Place. It was not a pretentious place and Mel was not a pretentious man.

Mel was a boxing and wrestling promoter who worked under the moniker of The Hustler and the walls of Mel's Place were covered with thousands of mug shots of boxers and wrestlers stuck up with thumbtacks and Mel could tell you the records of just about every one of them and their strengths and weaknesses. "He could punch but he had a glass jaw," stuff like that.

One of Mel's regulars was a 64 year-old guy who every year parked his motorhome on Broadway the night before the Battle of Flowers Parade and then spent the night hanging out with Mel until one day in 1979 when an hour before the parade a police officer informed him that his motorhome stuck out too far over the sidewalk and he would have to move it. His name was Ira Attebury and it turned out his motorhome was full of guns and he instigated a shootout with police that left two people dead and dozens injured and when the police found out he had been hanging out at Mel's they gave Mel the once over twice. Mel had been through a few run ins with the law himself and was wary of those behind a badge but fortunately for us he liked police reporters and police reports liked Mel because in the days before cell phones he had a bar phone we could use to check with the police and fire departments and the morgue while hanging out at Mel's rather than the musty old pressroom in the musty old police station. There were three newspapers in town in those days and three police reporters who didn't trust each other so we kept an eye on each other in Mel's while we took turns making our rounds of calls. "Everything quiet" with police dispatch, "nothing burning" at fire, "everything's dead over here," from Roy at the morgue. Life is good get another round.

The blue cart man

Out back of Mel's Place under the giant billboard which paid Mel a good income was a patch of grass about the size of a pool table which was just big enough to tee up a golf ball and send it under the freeway and over the fence into what was then the abandoned Pearl Brewery. A successful shot would bounce off the metal building inside the fence with a clanging thud and bring an appearance of the security guard in a blue golf which meant that the shooter's tab was on the house.

Great questions were raised and settled between tee shots; who should play Call in Lonesome Dove? Wilford Brimley. What did Lume mean by the difference between constancy and coherence? Unresolved? What is the best first line of a novel – an easy one, The Postman Always Rings Twice "Once they threw Mel off the hay truck about noon." Best last line - Huck-leberry Finn "So there ain't nothing more to write about, and I am rotten glad of it, because if I'd a knowed what a trouble it was to make a book I wouldn't a tackled it and ain't a going to no more."



Mel's was the our place and our little group ranged from reporters to novelist Max Martinez - (Schoolland, and A Red Bikini Dream - which the Houston Chronicle called one of the most misogynistic works ever created in the English language, a never ending source of needling for the longsuffering Max), Raza Guerra, homicide detectives, lawyers, and street people who lived under the bridge, even a chemical engineer – is God a Structural Engineer (bones) or Chemical Engineer (blood)? Obviously a Civil Engineer because who else would run a waste disposal pipeline right through a recreational area? A motley crew but highly opinionated and moderately well-read.

It was all great fun until one day when our

friend Gary got under one and instead of going under the McAllister Freeway was soon disappeared by the guardrail and his ball followed by the screeching of tires. "You guys better get outta here," Mel said, and we did, scattering like the duffers and ink-stained wretches that we were.

Land the plane...

By now you may be wondering where I'm going with this and here it is. For three decades we stayed in touch and when we were all in town or when one of us shook off his mortal coil we had a gathering of the tribe at Mel's and each time picked up right where we left off – we still liked Wilford Brimley and still liked the line about getting thrown off the hay truck – and in a way we were still a big old loose and mostly dysfunctional familial group united by common memories and foibles.

Over the years Mel ended up in trouble for shooting a deranged man through the back door (should have waited for him to come in) and even as we scattered and kids entered the picture and others dropped out of sight under threat from spouses there were still a few of us around. Then a few years ago Mel passed away, then Max, then Carlos, my first editor Tommy West, then our friend and writer Nelson, then Houston Chronicle reporter Mike Davis, then reporter Rob, and then last week my friend Gary. He had been working in Washington for thirty years and when I was in town we would meet at the Dubliner near Union Station and reminisce. Gary was my age and when I heard he was gone I started going down the mental checklist of people I needed to call; Max, no he's gone; Carlos, no; Tommy, Mike, Nelson, Rob...the list was long and as I ran down the list of people and the memories that died with them it occurred to me they all had one thing in common; they were all cigarette smokers every single one of them. A pack a day, two packs a day, sometimes more but never less. Now there are four of us left, only one of the four was ever a smoker and he quit in his fifties. I can't say it was the cigarettes that killed any or all of my friends but I can say the common denominator among those now gone was the smoking habit and the common denominator among the survivors is that we were not smokers.

Researchers say that a 30-year-old smoker can expect to live about 35 more years, whereas a 30-year-old non-smoker can expect to live 53 more years and just about every of my friends who is now gone fit that timeline. Think about that; twenty-three more years to stick around just by not smoking. It may be true that every cigarette you smoke adds a minute to the life of Keith Richards but there is only one of him. If my friends had not been smokers the odds are that some if not most of them would still be here. If you know a smoker harangue them, put exploding loads in their cigarettes (a lot of fun), let the air out of their tires, do anything to get them to stop. I can't help but wish that I had done more of that and maybe we'd still be out there behind Mel's Place hitting golf balls at the brewery and by now may have solved all the world's problems.

We will never know because the smokers are all gone.



64 Feature2 Fiesta12
Photo by JennHair
Courtesy SanAntonio Public Library

Only one in Texas

National Park Service Announces
Corpus Christi as New American
World War II Heritage Community

The United States National Park Service announced this week the designation of the South Texas Coastal Bend and Corpus Christi as one of eighteen new American World War II Heritage Communities. The American World War II Heritage Cities Program (AWWIIHC) honors the contributions of local towns, cities, coun-

ties and commemorates the stories of the men, women, and children whose bravery and sacrifices shaped the U.S. home front during World War II, and still impact our country today. Only one American World War II Heritage City can be designated in each state or territory.

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The Island Outdoors

On the Rocks

By Jay Gardner

I missed the Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) town hall meeting the other day that was held online and in Rockport due to the magic of scheduling. The purpose was to gauge public sentiment on the data collection for flounder gigging harvest. Most TPWD dock side intercepts and creel surveys are conducted from around 10am to a little after 5-6pm during the day. These surveys hit a majority of the people fishing with guides in and out of marinas during the day, but they miss the folks going floundering well after dark, and we've all known this for years. Word from the meeting was that TPWD is encouraging self-reporting via their app, and of course to participate in the late-night creel surveys, when they get started. Obviously TPWD will have to come up with a standardized protocol and get it passed by the Commission in the spring. Stay tuned.

Commodores Park

We had a pretty good meeting at the Island Strategic Action Committee (ISAC) the other night, and it was a packed house. We got an update from Fire Chief Rocha regarding the ESD#2, we passed the erosion response resolution unanimously, and revisited Commodores Park. ISAC has vetted a project list in the past for Commodores, in conjunction with the Area Development Plan that we worked on a few years back. Some of the components were tennis/pickleball courts, a dog park, baseball field, irrigation, walking trails, lighting, a splash pad, and yes, a community center/visitors center/museum also made the list. If you add those items up by then you get to a little over 6 acres. There are around 12 acres in Commodores, so we appear to have plenty of space. The Assistant Director of Parks and Recs, Kevin Johnston, who is also one of the liaisons from the city to ISAC, presented the plan to the bunch, and outlined his preferred plan for moving forward. At some point, there will be a survey online at the cctexas.com website that will encourage the community to identify and prioritize wanted amenities for the park. Once that survey is completed, then the list and priorities will be compiled, and a park planner will be brought on board to create the vision.

This will be published here in the Moon, and we will get another round of feedback at ISAC before it moves to final design. That juncture will be where the German rubber meets the road. The components of the park will be estimated as far as costs, and we may have to make a decision on what we want first, and what will have to come later. Obviously, a community center is the big-ticket item, and that may have to wait a stitch. But then again, maybe not. Remember that there is \$1 million in design (and construction), plus there are other funding sources, such as the TIRZ #2, TPWD Outdoor Recreation Grants, TPWD Recreational Trails grant, and there even could be a potential for a TPWD Boating Access Grant (that previously helped build the Billings and Clem's ramps, which need repair – AHEM!). In addition, there is the possibility that one or more adjacent developers may get involved somewhere along the line and also participate in constructing parts of the park. Thanks to Kevin for getting in front of this and let us know how we can help. Alissa Mejia, the chair of the Parks and Recs Advisory Committee, who we've been working with on the erosion resolution, also showed up for public comment and (among other things) reminded everyone of the connectivity issue when planning these parks and during the mobility plan vetting. This is going to be an issue that you loyal readers know I've been writing about for quite some time. Connectivity will become extremely important over the next year with all the construction, and we need to make sure we get it done right the first time. Islander Terry Palmer attended his last ISAC meeting for a while, as he has termed off being chair of the Water Shore and Beach Advisory Committee (WBAC) and will have to tender his ex-officio status. Terry has been a good friend and team player in his role as liaison between our committees as well as keeping in tune with beach ops. Good show mate! Well folks, it's been a pretty wild ride lately and doesn't show any sign of slowing down. The pace will be set on "ludicrous speed" as everyone tries to get activities and projects wedged in an already busy schedule before the end of the year. Y'all drop me a line at tarponchaser@mail.com and I'll see you next week On the Rocks.



The Beach Maintenance Building at Commodores Park is complete and will house approximately \$3 million worth of equipment which is currently stored in the open air. Plans are underway for improvements on the currently empty 12 acres of the park.

Tides of the Week

8 Dec	9 Dec	10 Dec	11 Dec	12 Dec	13 Dec	14 Dec
Thu ↗	Fri ↗	Sat ↗	Sun ↗	Mon ↗	Tue ↗	Wed ↗
6:02PM 1.97ft	6:45PM 1.94ft	7:25PM 1.87ft	8:03PM 1.8ft	8:32PM 1.71ft	8:52PM 1.61ft	9:05PM 1.51ft
8:21AM -0.39ft	8:54AM -0.39ft	9:28AM -0.39ft	10:03AM -0.33ft	10:39AM -0.26ft	11:16AM -0.13ft	11:54AM 0.03ft
7:07AM 5:34PM	7:07AM 5:34PM	7:08AM 5:34PM	7:09AM 5:35PM	7:09AM 5:35PM	7:10AM 5:35PM	7:11AM 5:35PM
7:38AM 5:59PM	8:33AM 6:49PM	9:23AM 7:43PM	10:09AM 8:38PM	10:50AM 9:33PM	11:26AM 10:28PM	11:58AM 11:22PM



Backwater Adventures

By Joey Farah
Farah's Fishing Adventures

Warm Winter days here along the Texas Gulf Coast are a dream. How spoiled we are here without having to dig out our cats every day from mounded snow and ice. No boat cruising up north it's iced over!

Today I watched a morning sunrise hang over the sand dunes of Padre as a haze of orange blaze came through the clouds. Our thoughts flowed with the music as we danced over the waves. As the boat settled down and the sounds of nature started to embrace our presence, we immediately started catching fish as we drifted along the shallows of Baffin Bay.

Warm days ahead of us now will be filled with fun time drift fishing from the boat. Casting weighted jig heads with soft plastics, as well as top water lures, for trout and redfish in 3-5 feet of water. Today we started over some shallow mixed bottom along the mouth of the Bay, a place called The Badlands. There at the break in four and a half feet of water a line of rocks and scattered sand pockets was full of giant trout and some beastly redfish. As my DOWN SOUTH LURES 5.5" Jerk Shad fluttered from the grass and settles towards the bottom of a sand pocket a silver flash and the face of a long speckled trout thrust out and engulfed my bait. A moment and my rod lifted to a bow as the fish bent towards the horizon. Here in the Coastal Bend we are blessed with so much beautiful water that seeing fish strike your lures is an every day, sometimes all day affair. If you are drift fishing in a boat use a drift anchor to slow you down and cast with the wind, bringing the lure back towards you with a natural retrieve. If you don't have a boat, there are so many public fishing opportunities here for anglers with wade fishing gear to access some of the best shallow water



Karah Swails holds two trout she caught when her and my daughter took their limit trout on just a hour on soft plastics over in the Humble Channel.

fishing in the world. The shorelines south of Bird Island Basin in the Northern Seashore are prime. The shallow sandy each falls off to two-three feet of water, where anglers can walk and cast to trout, reds, and flounder.

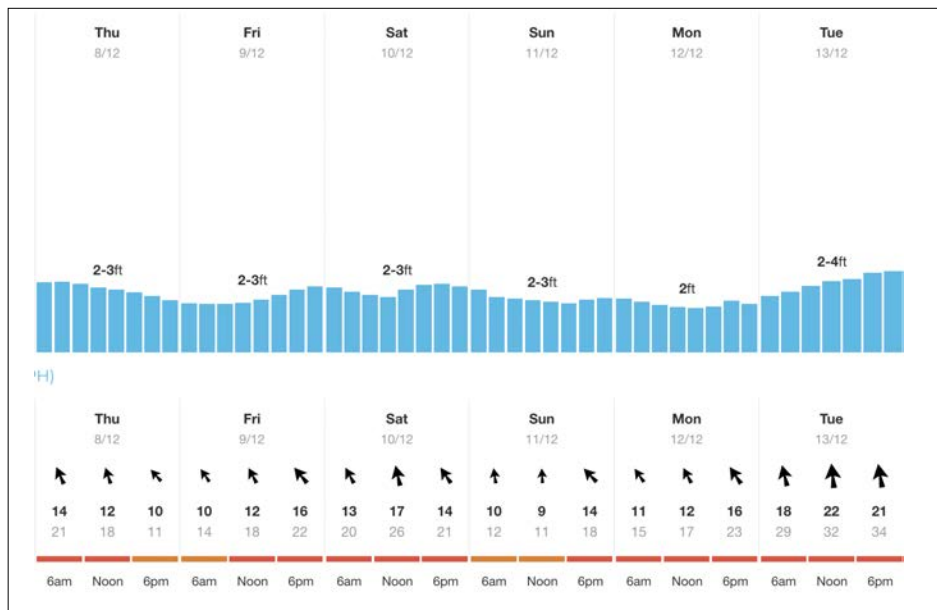
Looking ahead we will shurly see some colder weather, pushing gamefish deeper into winter hiding spots. This concentrates fish and makes for some great fishing. As soon as the waters of the shallow flats warm up again these bigger more mature fish will venture back out in search of food. Following the movements of wintertime gamefish is a challenge, but the most memorable days of unbelievable catches seem to come from the cooler months of winter.

Christmas is right around the corner, guided trips make a perfect gift for a family, friends, or even yourself! You can take them anytime during the year. January is also a special month between the worst of weather some of the best fishing of the year is upon us. Follow all of our hookups on Facebook and Instagram at JFARAH72!!

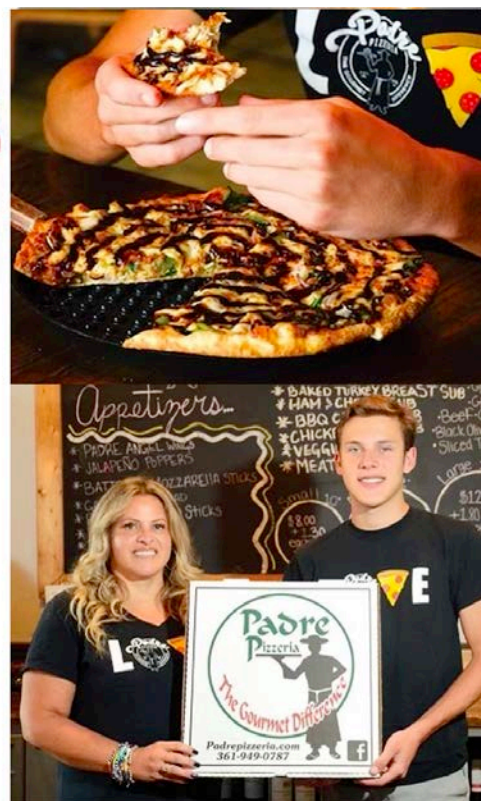


Becky Mueller with our local Padre Island Pool Supply Store landed this beautiful Speck this week on a DOWN SOUTH LURES SUPER MODEL IN magic Grass!

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Nature Notes

Texas Ocelots

By Celeste Silling



Photo By Tom Smylie - US Fish & Wildlife Service, Image Archive, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=45157>

As a new-comer to Texas, I am always learning new and fascinating things about the wildlife in this state. One of the most beautiful animals I've learned about recently is the Ocelot. Ocelots are wild cats that live in South Texas all the way down to Northern Argentina. In Texas, their habitat is mainly dense chaparral brush and they den in caves, hollow trees, and thickets, so they're difficult to find.

The most striking thing about Ocelots is their complex coat that looks like a mixture between a cheetah and a tiger. They also have a long tail and big eyes. Ocelots are about the size of a bobcat, growing as long as three and half feet long and weighing up to 35 pounds. They feed on prey such as small mammals, reptiles, and birds and can even take down young deer. These cats are mostly nocturnal, and so tend to do their hunting at night.

Observations of Ocelots at zoos and sanctuaries tell us that these cats have various methods of communicating with one another. They use body language, scent markings, and vocalizations to mark their territories, call to each other, or express displeasure. The San Diego zoo describes an Ocelot "threat posture" that involves an arched back, stiff legs, and straight tail. As a housecat owner, I can attest that this is a very threatening posture.

Another method of communication is physical markings. A male Ocelot marks his territory by clawing logs, urinating, and leaving feces around. This tells other males to keep far away. Male ocelots maintain a territory that

overlaps the territories of four or five females, so they can easily find a mate. And when they do find a mate, they don't stay together to raise the young.

The Ocelot mother is pregnant for just over two months before she gives birth to 1-4 kittens. Baby ocelots are marked with their signature spots at birth, but their coat is gray and their lower limbs are dark. Additionally, the eyes of a baby Ocelot are blue and change to brown after about three months. The mother ocelot teaches her babies to hunt when they are young, and by the time they turn eight months old, the kittens' adult teeth are in, and they can hunt for themselves.

While Ocelots have a wide range, the ones that live in the U.S. are doing poorly, and the Texas Ocelot subspecies *Leopardus pardalis albescentis* is federally endangered. Ocelots used to live throughout Texas, east Arkansas and Louisiana, but are now only found in the very Southern part of Texas. Current estimates say that there may be as few as 100 wild Ocelots still living in the U.S. This is due to hunting, poisoning, trapping, and habitat loss.

Fortunately, there are great organizations making strides to help save these cats. The Nature Conservancy and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, for example, are protecting and restoring the wildlife corridors that Ocelots use to roam between Mexico and Texas. Additionally, hunting, poisoning, and trapping of Ocelots has been greatly reduced. Because of this, conservationists are hopeful that the species will be able to bounce back. I hope so too!

Going to the Dog

By Pastor Kris Bair

As many of you readers know, my family of origin has a history of going to the dogs.

My family of crazies have one, too. Fifty years ago, when I was a college co-ed, the first gift I ever gave my soon-to-be husband (now known as the GP, or Great Provider) was a Husky/Lab cross puppy.

A dear friend, who had introduced me to the GP, accompanied me to answer the ad I'd seen and just "check out" the pups.

Yeah, sure. ONLY. Check out the pups.

It took about five seconds to decide to take the one that came right up to me, sat and gave me that Puppy Love look, and off we went.

I immediately named him "Ferdinand Fernando," after the GP's grandfather (we had told the GP we were headed out to "find Ferd").

We brought Ferd back to my friend's apartment and introduced him to his new owner.

Ferd was ecstatic and the GP (at that point barely able to provide for himself, never mind others) collapsed in a heap on the floor to receive and cuddle the pup.

And that was that. Ferd became a fixture in our lives.

He was followed by a black lab named Othello, shortened quickly to "Oat." Sadly, Oat didn't last long on the family farm, circumstances too sad to share.

He was followed by a long line of dogs, mostly lab crosses, some of whom included Orph (short for Orphan), who was supposedly part wolf. Orph looked so lovable, but strangers were never welcome to the back of her (not our) pickup truck.

And then there were the big boys—supposedly black labs, but in reality Great Pyrenees/labs.

Once again, circumstances had left us dog-less, so I went forlornly to the Humane Society where I saw two supposedly six-week-old black lab pups.

They gave me a two-fer-one deal and I took both to save them from the death shot.

Fergus and Farley turned out to be just as sweet as they were huge (150 pounds or so, each).

Farley survived to move down to Texas with us, along with a darling miniature Corgi named Quin. The GP walked Farley and Quin together, the Laurel and Hardy of Dogdom.

Our most recent dog was Rowlfie, who adopted us from the street. Rowlfie followed the DD (Dog-loving Daughter) home when she was taking her dog out for a run.

She couldn't keep him, but we were delighted to adopt him, and he lived to be 14

or 15 years old. Rust-colored Rowlfie attracted petters like fleas—and whole city blocks mourned his passing last spring.

It's hard to replace any dog you love right after the loss. There's just no replacing a dear friend of any sort. But after months of being dog-less, it was past time to find a new companion.

And it's a matter of good ethics to save a homeless dog.

This time we had to be picky! We needed a smaller dog, one already housebroken. The GP's energy level isn't what it used to be, and though he walks several miles a day, he wasn't going to be up to wrestling an untrained and excitable pup.

And then, the cats. Now that it's cooler, they've finally taken to being mostly housecats (and yes, they are neutered or spayed and have all their shots).

They're used to the DD's dog Stadler, and all of them tolerate one another. But a new dog might be a problem.

So I've been keeping my eyes open and thinking an older, laid-back lab might be the answer.

So when I got the call from a parishioner that Shelter-a-Mutt (a mission recipient of the Island Presbyterian congregation) might have what we needed, I jumped on it.

Sam Mullin had some darling lab-cross pups that were used to cats, but they weren't housebroken, and so full of beans I knew it would be a disaster.

Sam had some labs at his place in Alice and was willing to bring them to the Island, but he also had a "miniature" Australian Shepherd pup at his home that, he said, was "a sweetie."

Sam brought him out and he came right to my feet and gave me the Puppy Love look. I was sold.

I called the DD on the way home to tell her the news, and she yelled, "Drive by my house and honk. I want to be there!"

I pulled over and texted her as I entered our street, then whipped down the last few blocks, only to find her already parked and waiting. She grabbed Chance (he came with a moniker) and took him in the house where he went right for the GP and jumped in his lap.

What goes around, comes around. And now there's lots of "joy in Mudville," where even the cats are OK with it.

Sort of.

You'll find much JOY with us this Sunday of Advent at Island Presbyterian Church, Fortuna Bay and Gypsy. We worship at 10 a.m., or you can Livestream or Zoom us from our Facebook page or our website. Plan now for Christmas Eve service at 6 p.m., and a service of carols on Christmas Day!

Bluff cont. from AI

period after the board's vote during which any taxpayer in the district can file an injunction to challenge the board's authority to approve the rate approved last week.

"I don't want to send out notices until I'm sure no one is going to challenge the authority of the board on the vote they took last week," Kieschnick said. "I need to see the law that gives them the authority to do what they did. I am talking to the County Attorney now to try to figure out what our legal standing is."

FBISD Superintendent Velma Soliz-Garcia was questioned on the legality of the vote by Board President Shirley Thornton before it was taken at the Thursday meeting. Garcia said she had consulted with the district's legal counsel who advised that the board had authority to approve the rate they ultimately approved by a 6-1 vote with board member Jennifer Welp being lone vote against.

A request by the Island Moon for a copy of the legal opinion presented to the board which allowed the vote elicited the following response:

Estimated Ending Fund Balance Flour Bluff ISD for Current Fiscal Year

As presented to the board at its December 1 meeting

Revenue
\$52 million General Fund
\$4.3 million Food Service \$4.3 million
\$2.7 million Debt Service
\$5.1 million Health Insurance

Expenditures
\$47.7 million General Fund
\$3.2 million Food Service
\$2.7 million Debt Service
-\$107,804 deficit Health Insurance

Beginning Fund Balance
\$19 million General Fund
\$406,790 Food Service
\$1.8 million Debt Service
\$203,817 Health Insurance

Changes in Fund Balance
\$137,220 General Fund
\$1 million Food Service
\$16,359 Debt Service
\$642,196 Health Insurance

Ending Fund Balance
\$19,136,115 General Fund
\$1,463,172 Food Service
\$1,797,979 Debt Service
\$846,013 Health Insurance

FBISD Funds from Disaster Declaration 2021-2022 School Year

Without Disaster Declaration
0.9023 cents per \$100 of property value
Final numbers without Disaster Declaration
\$31,940,714 Tax Collections
\$12,870,462 State Revenue
\$44,811,176 Gain in Revenue

With Disaster Declaration
0.9323 cents per \$100 of property value
Actual numbers are adoption of Disaster Declaration
\$32,900,007 Tax Collections
\$13,771,041 State Revenue
\$46,671,048 Gain in Revenue
Total Gain in Revenue due to Disaster Declaration
\$959,293 Tax Collections
\$900,579 State Revenue
\$1,859,872 Total Gain in Revenue

General Fund
\$52,014,745 Revenue
\$47,697,525 Expenditures
\$4,317,220 Operating Surplus
\$3.4 million was provided to the district by funds from the federal stimulus laws passed by Congress which makes financial support available to districts and schools through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Funds.

The Tax Rate Approved by the FBISD Board will generate the following numbers

As presented by staff to the Flour Bluff ISD School Board at its December 1 meeting

\$35,818,441 Estimated Tax Collections (local Property Tax)

\$13,618,869 Estimated State Revenue (with 0.8846 Tax Rate)

\$49,437,310 Estimated Gain in Revenue (total with higher tax rate)

\$1,092,131 Gain in Revenue from local property tax with higher rate (currently approved by board)

\$874,400 Estimated gain in revenue (with the higher tax rate currently approved by board)

\$1,966,531 Estimated Gain in Revenue (total gain with higher currently adopted tax rate)




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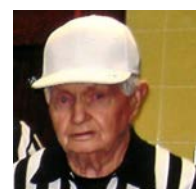
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Sports

Sports Talk Special to The Island Moon



By Dotson Lewis

The Origin of the National Football League

Dotson's Note: The 14 men huddled inside the Jordan and Hypomobile automobile show-room in downtown Canton, Ohio, on the night of September 17, 1920, were finally ready to strike a deal. They had come to Ralph Hay's dealership, not in search of a new set of wheels, but a new professional football league to save them from themselves. Thanks to Bill Morgan, Robert W. Peterson, Christopher Kelin, and the Canton Evening Repository, for the facts contained in this report and to Bill Morgan for the photos.



Above, Jim Thorpe, first president of the APFA, during his playing days with the Canton Bulldogs. By 1920, pro football remained thoroughly overshadowed by the college game and a bastion confined mostly to small Midwestern industrial cities. Even worse for team owners, they were bleeding cash because of soaring player salaries and intense bidding wars as they poached players from other squads. The owners of these independent pro teams coveted a strong league such as the one baseball had in order to gain more control over the sport, and their finances.

Hay, the owner of the reigning Ohio League champion Canton Bulldogs, had invited representatives from three other in-state teams to an organizational meeting at his showroom on August 20 where they agreed on a broad outline of a new association. According to the Canton Evening Repository, the goal of the new venture would be “to raise the standard of professional football in every way possible, to eliminate bidding for players between rival clubs and to secure cooperation in the formation of schedules.”

Nearly a month later, a deal was ready to be struck. Hay gathered representatives from 11 professional football clubs sprinkled across Ohio, Illinois, Indiana and New York: Akron Pros, Canton Bulldogs, Cleveland Indians, Dayton Triangles, Decatur Staleys, Hammond Pros, Massillon Tigers, Muncie Flyers, Racine Cardinals, Rochester Jeffersons and Rock Island Independents. (So unfamiliar were the teams that even the meeting minutes mistakenly listed the Cardinals, who played home games at Normal Park on Chicago's Racine Avenue, as being from the Wisconsin city of the same name.) Unable to squeeze into Hay's office on the steamy night, the football pioneers, including Jim Thorpe and George Halas, sat on the running boards and fenders of the \$3,000 cars on the showroom floor and grabbed cold beer bottles from an icy bucket as they hammered out an agreement.

According to the meeting minutes typed on the letterhead of the Akron Professional Football Team, the first item of business was an inauspicious one—the withdrawal of Massillon before the league even officially formed. Then, the men moved and seconded a proposal to form a confederation known as the American Professional Football Association (APFA). The new league needed a president to lead the organization and be its public face, and the choice required little debate. The team representatives unanimously selected the 32-year-old Thorpe, the Canton Bulldogs star who although past his prime was still touted by newspapers such as the Milwaukee Journal as the “world's greatest athlete.” Indeed, the selection of the gridiron's greatest gate attraction garnered more ink in newspapers around the country than the formation of the APFA itself.

The first game involving an APFA team took place on September 26, 1920, at Douglas Park in Rock Island, Illinois, as the hometown Independents flattened the St. Paul Ideals 48-0. The first head-to-head battles in the league occurred one week later as Dayton topped Columbus 14-0 and Rock Island pasted Muncie 45-0.



1920 Dayton Triangles

While the gridiron dimensions were the same in 1920 as today, the pro game itself was quite different. Forward passes were rare, coaching from the sidelines was prohibited and players competed on both offense and defense. Money was so tight that Halas carried equipment, wrote press releases, sold tickets, taped ankles, played and coached for the Decatur club. As opposed to today's standard 16-game schedule, clubs in 1920 scheduled their own opponents and could play nonleague and even college squads that counted toward their records. With no established guidelines, the number of games played, and the quality of opponents scheduled, by APFA teams varied, and the league did not maintain official standings.

The Buffalo All-Americans, Chicago Tigers, Columbus Panhandles and Detroit Heralds joined the league before the end of the season, raising the total number of teams to 14, but the inaugural season was a struggle. Games received little attention from the fans, and even less from the press. According to Robert W. Peterson's book “Pigskin: The Early Years of Pro Football,” APFA games averaged crowds of 4,241. The association bylaws called for teams to pay a \$100 entry fee, but no one ever did. Muncie played only one game before dropping out before the end of the season, which concluded on December 19th.



1920 Akron Pros

At the conclusion of the season there were no playoffs, let alone a Super Bowl, and it took more than four months before the league even bothered to crown a champion. Much as college football did for decades, the APFA determined its victor by ballot. On April 30, 1921, team representatives voted the Akron Pros, who completed the season undefeated with eight wins and three ties while yielding only a total of seven points, the champion in spite of protests by the one-loss teams in Decatur and Buffalo, who each had tied Akron and had more wins. The victors received a silver loving cup donated by sporting goods company Brunswick-Balke-Collender. While players were not given diamond-encrusted rings, they did receive golden fobs in the shape of a football inscribed with the words “World Champions.”

Needing a leader with greater business acumen, team owners replaced Thorpe with Columbus Panhandles owner Joe Carr, and in 1922, the APFA rebranded itself as the National Football League. While the '20s roared, the NFL sputtered. College football remained king, drawing crowds as big as 100,000, while NFL franchises came and went. Only after the signing of college phenom Red Grange in 1925 did pro football begin to increase in popularity.

The NFL's first season was so quickly forgotten in the collective sports memory that the league's official record books listed the 1920 championship as undecided until the 1970s. The whereabouts of the Brunswick-Balke-Collender Cup, only given out that one time, are unknown.

Dotson's Other Note: The foregoing is a look back at the National Football League's humble origins, in an Ohio auto dealership. Ten APFA players along with Joe Carr are enshrined in the Pro Football Hall of Fame, which opened its doors in 1963 not far from the Canton automobile dealership that gave birth to the NFL in 1920. Comments regarding Sports Talk are welcome, send to dlewis1@sixtyrr.com or the editor of The Island Moon.



By Andy Purvis

V Week

This is Jimmy V. week in college basketball. If you have not watched the ESPN 30-For-30 Special about this amazing run by Jim Valvano and his Wolfpack of N.C. State, please do. Valvano taught his kids to dream. Valvano's March 4, 1993 ESPY speech, “Don't Give Up. Don't Ever Give Up,” will live forever. God truly gave him words that night to give to us. Since 1993, nearly 310 million dollars has been raised to help fight cancer through the Jimmy V. Foundation.

I have always wanted to write this story but be as it may, it always became a bit to emotional for me. You see, sometimes we can be too close to something. So close that it feels wonderful and hurts all at the same time. Oh, I tried and then all the memories rose up, my mind reeling, I would move on to something else, always intending to return. Now that another season of NCAA basketball has started, I will try again to express my feelings. I was born and raised in Raleigh, N.C. and my Mother, Edith Purvis, worked at N.C. State in the bookstore and athletic department for over 25 years. She knew Jim Valvano well and made sure we did too. I can't count how many games my brother and I attended at William Neal Reynolds Coliseum, the home court of the N.C. State Wolfpack.

When N.C. State coach Jim Valvano was asked how he planned to slow down the Houston Cougars at the 1983 Final Four, he responded, “We're going to start guarding them when they get off their bus.” Jim Valvano was a one-man parade. He was an over-doer, an overachiever and an over-the-top kind of guy, but he was at his best as a basketball coach. Talking with Valvano gave you ammunition to go out and do whatever you set your mind on doing. “Don't let anyone steal your dreams,” he once said. Until his bout with cancer, the only thing Jim had ever hurt was his stomach from laughing. Jim always talked about love. Love for the game, for his players, and his family. “Love means you can depend on me,” said Valvano. He just might have been what basketball is all about.

With a record of 25-10 and a coach who refused to give up, the Wolfpack prepared to play against the 31-2, Houston Cougars. It was April 4, 1983, in “The Pit” at the University of New Mexico. At halftime, N. C. State was up



Jimmy V.

33-25 with 50 million viewers tuned in. The world of college basketball was upside down. Surely Houston would respond. With the score 52-52 with 1:42 minutes left to play, Valvano called a timeout and instructed his team to foul freshman Alvin Franklin of the Cougars. Franklin missed and N.C. State rebounded the basketball. With 4 seconds left and Derek Whittenburg, wearing #25 and 30 feet away from the basket, put up a desperation shot. Whether Whittenburg actually shot the ball or attempted a pass to Lorenzo Charles standing underneath the basket, it will be debated until the end of time. The only guy who moved in the building was Lorenzo Charles who grabbed the ball out of midair and dunked it as time ran out. Madness, upset city, it's a miracle, Cinderella was for real, team of destiny, it may never happen again, every sports page and magazine in the nation led with the impossible: N.C. State 54-Houston 52. Sometimes we wish that time would stand still. Life unlike a snapshot is a gathering of fleeting moments in time. That was such a happy time for me, my brother Cliff, my family and millions of N.C. State fans.

A lot of laughter left the game when Jim Valvano died. Cancer finally dunked on Jimmy V. with no time remaining, on April, 28, 1993. My dad, Gordon Purvis died of cancer a little one year after Valvano won it all, in July of 1984. My mother and brother have also left me behind. Valvano's real message had always been the same as my parents, about love. Love each other.

Andy Purvis
www.purvisbooks.com

Padre Isles Property Owners Association, Inc.

Regular Monthly Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

5:30 PM

Padre Island Baptist Church

14253 South Padre Island Dr.

Corpus Christi, TX 78412

[Streaming to PIPOA Facebook Page](#)

NOTICE OF MEETING AND AGENDA

Members of the audience will be provided with an opportunity to address the Board during Public Comment. Please speak into the microphone located at the podium and state your name and address. Your presentation will be limited to three minutes. Please sign in prior to the meeting with your name, physical address, email address, and the subject to be addressed.

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. RECEIVE CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT(S)
3. PRESENTATIONS:
 1. MR. DAVID HEITZMAN, CHAIR ACC
4. MEMBERS' COMMENTS (3 minutes, per member)

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:

1. Intra-Office Review
2. Whitecap Development
3. Other

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – The Board will receive a report on important topics from the previous meeting.

1. Next Board Meeting: January 31, 2022
2. Billish Park Playground Spring-Rider Replacement
3. Compliance Enforcement Update
 1. Current Open Violations / Closed Violations Reports (Enclosed)
4. Bulkheads
 1. Repair Activity Report (Enclosed)
7. CONSENT AGENDA: (Routine items; acceptable without further discussion)
 1. Secretary's Report: October 25, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes
 2. Board Votes via Email
8. TREASURER'S REPORT – FINANCIAL REPORTS: (The Board will review, discuss, and then accept all financial reports, with possible motions.)
 1. October 2022 Treasurer's Reports & Approval of October 31, 2022, Financial Statement
9. OLD BUSINESS (with possible motions):
 1. Boat Ramp Parking Sticker Policy
 1. Committee Recommendations
 2. Boat Ramp Slab Epoxy Crack Filling
 3. Proposed 2023 Budget Review & Approval
 4. Proposed Collections Policy
 1. Foreclosures
 5. Corpus Christi Storm Water Invoices on Boat Ramps
10. NEW BUSINESS (with possible motions):
 1. Billish Park Irrigation Booster Pump Replacement
 2. Member Docks of PIPOA Property Policy
 3. 2023 Meeting Schedule

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

1. Legal Matters
2. Personnel Matters
3. Contract Matters
4. Appeals

12. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

13. ADJOURN



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Come join Branch 94 for our regular meeting, held on the second Sunday of each month at 1300

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WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Active Duty, Reserve, Retired, and Veterans of the United States Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard

FRA Branch 94

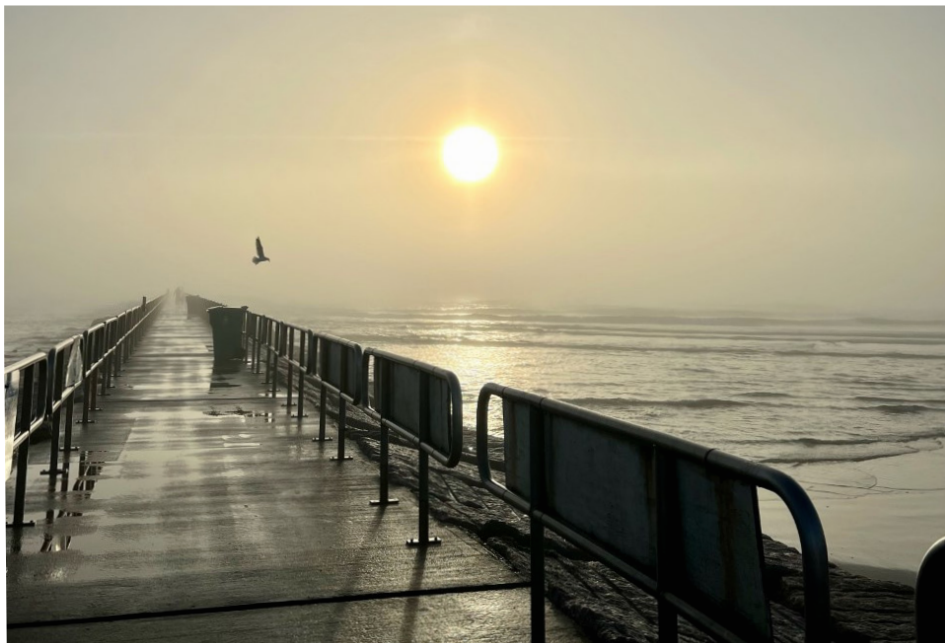
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The La Posada Land Parade was a huge success last Sunday
Photo Ted Mandell



Monday morning sun burning up the atmosphere. Evelyn Pless-Schuberth



The high tides and wind of late has taken its toll on the wooden bollards along the Michael J. Ellis Seawall. Evelyn Pless-Schuberth

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13845 Hawksnest Bay —5/3/2 with a pool 2,747 sq ft. Great location close to the beach, schools, park. **\$594,999** Call **Kellye Pena** at 361-522-0292

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4010 Moorhead— Offers 3 bedrooms two baths, 2 car garage, SS appliances & granite counter tops. Beautiful in ground pool & screened patio. **\$309,000** Call **Charlie Knoll** at 361-443-2499.



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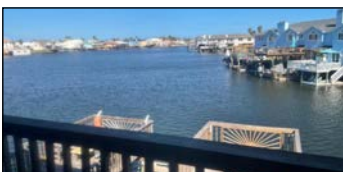
15325 Cruiser Unit A & B
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15426 Grass Cay A
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15425 Fortuna Bay #306
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Pete Moreno and Denise Estachy took the Island Moon to the Golden Nugget for Thanksgiving in Lake Charles, Louisiana



Paul Fain with Dede Smith and Ace took the Moon traveling to Bandera, Texas to the Arky's Silver Dollar Moon



Paul Fain took the Moon traveling to the Eiffel Tower in Paris, Texas

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The Sexcentenary of the Quintessential Misnomer

By Chris Jordan



Jerusalem artichokes

The Jerusalem Artichoke: we’ve been calling it the wrong thing for exactly six hundred years. It is neither an artichoke nor is it from Jerusalem. So what is it and where is it from? Welp, it’s the root of a certain sunflower, *helianthus tuberosus*, and it is native to what we now call eastern United States and Canada. Long before Europeans arrived, indigenous peoples were cultivating this plant which they called *sunroot*. That seems like a much better name. The Jerusalem artichoke is often said to resemble ginger root, but it truly looks more like *galangal*. Its texture is that of a slightly lighter and softer potato, and its flavor will indeed remind you of artichoke.

You can easily source Jerusalem artichokes online. Locally, Natural Grocers (3750 S Staples St) has them.

A Timeline Tossed with Some Etymology

4000 BC: Indigenous peoples begin cultivation of the sunroot which was called by various names depending on the tribe and its respective language. The Ojibwe call sunroots *ashkibwaa*.

1608: French explorer Samual de Champlain wrote of his experience eating the native tubers, simultaneously noting they tasted like artichokes and yet naming them “Canadian truffles”. This event is often given to have occurred in 1603 or 1605 but is most certainly likely to have been later.

1609: Canadian truffles arrive in France and are immediately misnamed *topinambours* due to their being confused with a different root vegetable imported from The New World years before. Accounts that the name was given in honor of visiting Topinambà tribesmen are demonstrably false. The tubers are called topinambours in France to this day.

1617: Topinambours are grown all over France, but remain largely unknown in Italy and England

1621: Sunroot was almost certainly eaten at the first Thanksgiving meal shared by Puritans and Wampanoags.

1622: First printed English reference specifically naming the vegetable “Jerusalem artichoke” appears in Tobias Venner’s *Via Recta ad Vitam Longam*

1629: Jerusalem artichokes are now common in England.

1723: The *poire de terre* (pear of the earth) is listed in Louis Lémery’s *Treatise of Foods*.

1855: Hensleigh Wedgwood, in his article “On False Etymologies”, proclaims the name “Jerusalem artichoke” evolved as a corruption from the Italian *girasole artichoka*. Ironically, this assertion is itself false etymology: the

English name came to be used before the plant was widely known to the Italians. The attribution seems legit on the surface. It stuck as is still offered as fact to this day.

1834: *Palestine Soup* first appears on the radar of Jewish cooks and includes Jerusalem artichoke which inspired its name. It goes on to be a staple in Jewish cookbooks for many years.

1903: In *Le Guide Culinaire*, Auguste Escoffier offers a recipe for *Topinambours à l’Anglaise*.

1918: *The Gardner’s Chronicle* offers a prize for the renaming of the Jerusalem artichoke. Nothing sticks.

1965: California produce supplier Frieda Caplan is introduced to Jerusalem artichokes, rebrands them Sunchokes, registers the trademark, and brings them to national attention. Later, Julia Child sends Caplan a note that reads “Dear Frieda – I just love those Jerusalem Artichokes. But is there anything you can do about the flatulence?”

1982: Chris Jordan eats his first Jerusalem artichoke.

1992: Nothing Jerusalem artichoke-related happens whatsoever

2002: Chris Jordan attempts to prepare Jerusalem artichokes at home.

2013: Dan G. Bock, Nolan C. Kane, Daniel P. Ebert, and Loren H. Rieseberg reveal in a paper that the Jerusalem artichoke is a hybrid of the hairy sunflower and the sawtooth sunflower.

2017: The Jerusalem artichoke is celebrated in a festival with the participation of over fifty eating places in the town of.....Jerusalem.

2022: Chris Jordan successfully prepares Jerusalem artichokes at home.

It has been called sunroot, earth apple, Canadian truffle, sunchoke, Indian potato, Chinese artichoke, potato of Canada, topinambours, wild sunflower, poire de terre, or even fartachoke, but the astoundingly misnamed tuber nonetheless endures as the Jerusalem artichoke.

The following recipe renders an earthy powerhouse of funk. We served it with seared ribeye, blanched asparagus and hollandaise but it would be exceptionally good with pan-fried sweetbreads.....the thymus gland ones of course, not the pancreas ones...don’t be gross.



Jerusalem artichoke puree and mushrooms with seared ribeye, asparagus and hollandaise

Jerusalem Artichoke Puree with Sauteed Mushrooms

Serves **Four**
Ready in **45 minutes**

For the mushrooms:

Ingredients:

- 16 ounces *cremini* mushrooms (aka brown button or baby bella)
- 4 ounces unsalted butter
- ½ tsp kosher salt
- ½ tsp finely ground black pepper

Preparation:

Set oven to “warm”. Sautee mushrooms DRY in a 12” non-stick pan until darker brown and no longer releasing moisture, about 15 minutes. Add remaining ingredients and continue to sautee until mushrooms have softened, another 15 minutes or so. Place in warm oven.

For the Jerusalem artichoke puree:

Ingredients:

- One pound Jerusalem artichokes
- 2 ounces unsalted butter
- 2 ounces sour cream
- 1 TBS white truffle oil
- ½ tsp kosher salt
- ½ tsp finely ground white pepper

Preparation:

Peel and cut Jerusalem artichokes into one inch cubes. Bring two quarts of water to a boil, cook Jerusalem artichokes for ten minutes, drain. Place cooked Jerusalem artichokes and remaining ingredients in food processor and blend until smooth.

Place a puddle of puree on a plate, dot with sauteed mushrooms.

Full Transparency and Disclosure

PIPOA News by Marvin Jones, President



News you can Use

As always, let me have your thoughts. You can reach me at marvin@pipoa.net or call me at 469-231-3485. You can also call the Padre Isles Property Owners Association (PIPOA) office with any questions you have at 361-949-7025.

2023 Board of Directors Election- In March of 2023, two (2) Board of Directors seats are up for election. The seats are currently held by Marvin Jones and Sandy Graves, respectively.

For Padre Isles POA owners wanting to run for the Board, the registration period will open on Tuesday, November 1, 2022, at 8:00 AM Central and will close on Thursday, December 15, 2022, at 5:00 PM Central.

Per the Bylaws, Board Members must be at least 18 years old and be members of the Association (own property in the PIPOA).

Interested members are asked to please send a notice and a brief resume, along with a picture, to the Executive Director, Gary Klepperich, gary@pipoa.net. Resumes may also be mailed to the PIPOA office or dropped off at the office located at 14015 Fortuna Bay Dr., Corpus Christi, TX 78418.

Candidate-submitted resumes will be published in a newsletter; be placed on the PIPOA's Facebook page, and put on the PIPOA's website. The PIPOA will not proofread resumes prior to publication.

For questions, please contact the Executive Director, Gary Klepperich, at the email address above, or call 361-949-7025.

ISAC (Island Strategic Action Committee)- I attended the ISAC meeting on Tuesday, December 6. The Corpus Christi Fire Chief gave a presentation regarding combining the ESD #2 Fire Station, personnel, and equipment with the Corpus Christi Fire Department. In particular, he pointed out that the tax money paid for ESD #2

is redundant in that we pay tax money to the City for the Fire Department. We did not hear the ESD #2 side of the story. I will keep you posted on this.

There was a great deal of discussion regarding Commodores Park. Commodores Park is on the North Side of the Island. It is about .8 of an acre. The City wishes to combine the park with another City land adjacent to the new beach storage facility. This would create about 11 acres. The City has approximately \$1 Million to spend for a study on a community center and other amenities in the park. They plan to survey Island residents to determine what amenities or activities residents would like to see in the park. Furthermore, the City plans to utilize additional community outreach to assess the community's needs. I asked that the Padre Isles Property Owners Association be included as a participant in their community outreach.

Board Meeting- The next PIPOA Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at 5:30 PM at the Padre Island Baptist Church located across from Whataburger. All PIPOA members are invited to attend.

La Posada- December 9th will be the boat parade on the North canals, and December 10th will be the boat parade in the South canals. The parade is still in need of lighted boats. If you would like to be in the parade, contact Bob Corbett at bob.corbett895@gmail.com. For a full listing of dates and events, go to the La Posada Facebook page. In addition, La Posada invites those participating in the boat parade to a boat decorating party on Saturday, December 3, 2022, at 10:00 AM. Padre Island Yacht club volunteers, along with the Marines, will be available to help you decorate your boat. Bring your lights and decorations, and they will all pitch in to help.

Marvin Jones, PIPOA President

Padre Island Real Estate Activity November 16 – November 30

Interior Lot Homes Sold

15726 Dyna Street
15701 Escapade Street
15605 Three Fathoms Bank Drive
14845 Quarterdeck Drive
14002 Eaglesnest Bay Drive
14014 Rudder Court
15526 Finistere Street
15813 Gypsy Street

38 Interior Lot Homes Listed From \$324,900.00 to \$785,000.00

Waterfront Home Sold

13518 King Phillip Court
13709 Eaglesnest Bay Drive

34 Waterfront Homes Listed From \$424,000.00 to \$2,500,000.00

Interior Condominiums/Townhomes/Duplexes Sold

14721 Whitecap Blvd. #309
14721 Whitecap Blvd. #292
13953 Fortuna Bay Drive #3
15118 Leeward Drive # 102
14303 Ridley Way
15218 Beach Way Drive
14910 Island Village

46 Interior Condominiums/Townhomes/Duplexes Listed From \$159,900.00 to \$895,000.00

Waterfront Condominiums/Townhomes/Duplex Sold

14300 Padre Island Drive
15225 Leeward Drive Unit A3
15326 Bonasse Court #702
14435 Compass Street Unit E

14 Waterfront Condominiums/Townhomes/Duplexes Listed From \$149,900.00 to \$1,490,000.00

Waterfront Lot

22 Waterfront Lots Listed From \$220,000.00 to \$9,000,000.00

Interior Lot Sold

Lot 2 Blk. 36 Sand Dollar Avenue

22 Interior Lots Listed From \$39,000.00 to \$300,000.00

Commercial Lots Sold

15821-15825 S. Padre Island Drive

22 Commercial Lots Listed From \$120,000.00-\$3,000,000.00

Sudoku

Sudoku answers are not available.
Play at your own risk!
Going Easy On You...

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

Knuckle-Cracker

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

Mind-Numbing Frustration

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

Brain-Buster

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



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Moon Crossword

Crossword Solution on classifieds page

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
14						15						16		
17					18							19		
20							21				22			
			23			24		25						
26	27	28					29		30				31	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				

- Across
- 1. George Burns comedy
 - 6. Noah's ark measurement
 - 11. Prefix with logical
 - 14. Ms. Doone
 - 15. Investigation
 - 16. Like Methuselah
 - 17. George Burns was her straight man
 - 19. Law prof.'s degree
 - 20. Historical records
 - 21. Coastal areas
 - 23. Word for the calorie-conscious
 - 25. SkimpY skirt
 - 26. Spanish merchant ships of old
 - 30. "As you wish"
 - 33. Actor Wallach of "The Magnificent Seven"
 - 34. Command to Rover
 - 36. India's first prime minister
 - 37. First name in jazz
 - 39. 6 on the dial
 - 40. Euphemistic expletive
 - 41. Authority
 - 43. ___ Buena Island in San Francisco Bay
 - 46. Tiny
 - 47. Whole
 - 49. Palmists' fortes
 - 51. One-eyed Norse god
 - 52. Current letters
 - 53. Contest that may give the local team an edge
 - 57. Ultimatum's end
 - 61. What the winner takes
 - 62. Sid Caesar's partner
 - 64. Kauai keepsake
 - 65. Neighbor of Tibet
 - 66. Epic tales
 - 67. This weight may be long or short
 - 68. Toboggans
 - 69. Kind of coat

- Down
- 1. Gymnast Korbut
 - 2. Trumpet or cornet
 - 3. The "G" in GTO
 - 4. Like some beeper carriers
 - 5. Major newspapers
 - 6. Number-crunching pro
 - 7. Browser bookmarks
 - 8. Tree trunk
 - 9. Construction girders
 - 10. Latent hostility
 - 11. "Laugh-In" alum
 - 12. Vogue competitor
 - 13. Bookmaker's numbers
 - 18. Bar legally
 - 22. Not out of the sack yet
 - 24. Arch rival
 - 26. They fly in skeins
 - 27. Poe's middle name
 - 28. Another "Laugh-In" alum
 - 29. Not so nutty
 - 31. Like some vbs.
 - 32. Top 40 items
 - 35. "M*A*S*H" locale
 - 38. Comment to the audience
 - 42. Beginnings
 - 44. What some dads bring home
 - 45. Talk to a crowd
 - 48. Crown material
 - 50. Polar covering
 - 53. Sentry's cry
 - 54. Substitute spread
 - 55. Put on a long face
 - 56. Quaint oath
 - 58. Corporate symbol
 - 59. Al Capone feature
 - 60. South's right-hand man
 - 63. Trains in the Loop

Police Blotter November 22 - November 28

JFK Causeway to Aquarius light

Crimes against Property
14000 block SPID Midnight December 5 Forgery
Traffic
45 Traffic Stops

Aquarius/SPID 5 p.m. December 2 Crash
SPID West to Laguna Madre

Crimes against Person
14300 block Scallop 3 p.m. December 2 Terroristic Threat/Display of Weapon
Crimes against Property
14300 block Aquarius 11 a.m. November 29 Theft of Services
14300 block Cruiser 10 a.m. December 2 Theft of Services
15300 block Beaufort Court 11 a.m. December 4 Burglary
Disturbance
14300 block SPID Midnight December 5
14300 block Indigo 10 p.m. December 2
14300 block SPID 3 p.m. December 2 Violation of Court Order
14000 block Ambrosia 8 a.m. November 28
14000 block Ambrosia 10 a.m. November 28
14100 block Bounty 9 p.m. December 4 Noise Ordinance Violation
SPID/Sea Pines 8 p.m. December 5 Public Intoxication

15100 block Beach Country 9 p.m. December 1
13800 block Doubloon 1 pm. November 28
15400 block SPID 10 p.m. December 4

Traffic
84 Traffic Stops
14700 block Dasmarinas 11 a.m. November 28 Crash
SPID/Whitecap 8 p.m. December 5 DWI
SPID east to Gulf of Mexico
Crimes against Property
14400 block SPID 11 p.m. December 2 Trespassing
Disturbance
100 block Zahn Road Midnight December 5
14300 block SPID 10 p.m. December 1
Suspicious Person
Windward/St. Augustine 3 p.m. December 5
14900 block Windward 2 p.m. December 2
Traffic
86 Traffic Stops
14700 block Whitecap 8 p.m. November 8 Parking Violation
SH 361/Newport Pass 6 p.m. December 4 DWI
SH 361/Beachcomber Midnight November 29 Crash

Suspicious Person

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On the Island

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In addition Sunday AA Meetings are held at 8 AM at

The Pavillon on the Boardwalk

Near Padre Bali

Crossword Solution

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

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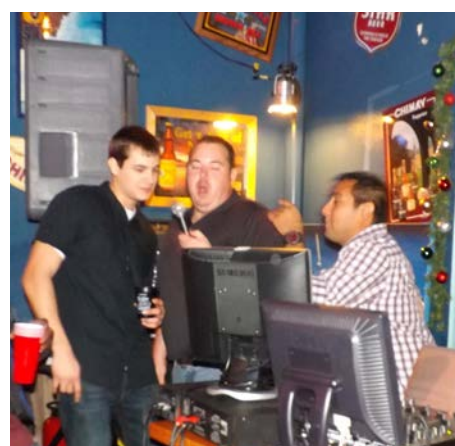
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La Posada Kickoff Party 2022



La Posada 2012

With the La Posada parades this week we take a look back ten years to La Posada 2012.



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Three Chords and the Truth

By Ronnie Narmour
ronnienarmour@gmail.com

Boat parades...



Port A Christmas Boat Parade will happen this Saturday.

And just like that it's Christmas time. I know this because I just got **Neesy Tompkins** 2023 calendar she does every year showcasing her ample photography skills. I also know this because it's been on every TV screen and newspaper ad since Halloween. Coming this weekend we have the annual lighted boat parade in Port A and the big boy *La Posada* boat parade down on Padre. Both of these parades are spectacular and the one on Padre is also a fundraiser for *Toys for Tots*. If that doesn't put you in the holiday spirit, you must be dead.

Bron's rearranging their living room...

It's been a bit of a challenge being the music scribe in a town full of outdoor venues when we have weather like we have here in our South Texas. I feel like I've been second guessing the weather my whole life not knowing whether to book a band inside or out. I know that *Bron's* has shut down their music and bar & grill operations entirely until Spring Break. They'll keep renting beach carts but from what I understand, they plan to rearrange their living room this winter and open back up in the spring with family friendly live music being their focus. **Jimmy Jam** joined their ranks about a year ago and set up operations of a nice little kitchen that pairs well with their bar in the back. I gotta say, it's been a lot of fun watching *Bron's* grow through the years. I hope their attempt to upgrade their compound this winter is successful. Those cats are full of surprises.

Let the music play...



Radney Foster will play 3rd Coast this Saturday. Photo by Tim Burdick

I liked the way the *Back Porch* used to wrap the whole place in plastic during the winter and put out a bunch of propane heaters to huddle around and call it good. And the *Gaff* has two outdoor stages but can also cram their shows inside in the corner of the bar if they have too, and it works OK. That was one nice thing about *Giggity's* where they did seven shows a week all inside. Rain smain... let her rip! We have umbrellas don't we? I'm hoping when the *VFW* finds their legs in the new building that they will beef up their live music program some. They have all kinds of room over there. And, I've seen **Tommy** over at *Treasure Island* move small shows into their whiskey bar before. The time is right for someone to come into Port A and take over where the *Back Porch* left off. Speaking of which, I haven't heard a peep out of *Shorty's* lately. Your guess is as good as mine there. So in the mean time... its still Christmas which also means the *Third Coast Theater* is now in full swing. This is their season to shine. They will have **Bri Bagwell** there this Friday and **Radney Foster** on Saturday plus the GREAT **Ray Wylie Hubbard** will be playing two nights on the following weekend. **Terri Hendrix** and **Lloyd Maines** will be there in February. Granted the place only holds a hundred people but it's truly a fabulous listening room. It is up close and intimate. The moral there is get your tickets early over there. Port Aransas has seen many, many bars and venues come and go through the years. *Shorty's* making it 76 years is an oddity. But the bottom line is, people aren't going to stop coming here to fish and hang at the beach during the day and hit the bars and restaurants the rest of the time.

Check out *Bernie's* or the *Salty Dog* during the day if you don't believe that... even earlier! Our Winter Texan families like to eat lunch around 11:00, eat dinner at 3:00, eat breakfast the night before and hit the bars by 4:00. They really know how to get the most out of their days but they start ridiculously early. Actually, I'm one to talk.

Coming up...



Ray Wylie Hubbard will play the Third Coast Theater on Dec 16 & 17.

Also besides the shows at the *Third Coast Theater* I talked about, we have a gentleman I met through **Augie Meyers** some years ago. He is **Ron Baker** who was **Charlie Pride's** guitarist for ten years and now resides in Port A. Ron is a very talented musician and I see where he's playing a string of Thursdays at *Island Wine* with **Jon Dunaway**. I'll definitely check that out. Mr. Baker certainly has the pedigree. Anyone that Augie Meyers tells me to keep an eye on is the real deal. Coming this Friday we have **Brad Ethridge** at the *Gaff*, **Jon Mikael MREZ** at the *Pelican* and **Ty Dietz** at the *Executive Surf Club*. On Saturday we of course have two lighted boat parades, but also the **Coastal Benders** will be playing *Island Wine* plus the *Gaff* has their bi-monthly **BELT SANDER RACES** at 3:00 PM. Also on Saturday the **Groove** plays *Rocket's* and the *House of Rock* has a big rock show with **Triptonite**, **Corpus Creeps** and **Crucial Riddim**. That should be a rocking show! Another show I see on Saturday is the *Sing Along Piano Bar* at *Brewster Street Ice House Downtown* with **Russell Boy** plus **Starlite** and the **Moonbeams** with the **Rudolph Llanes Senior and Junior** will play *Vernon's*. On Sunday **Barbara Janice** is at *Island Wine* and **Upon a Burning Body** will freak out the *House of Rock*. Also on Sunday the great country band, **Tumble Dry Low** will play *Bernie's Beach House* as they do every Sunday plus **Sonny Salinas** will play the *Executive Surf Club*. On the near horizon we have the annual **Ugly Sweater Contest** at the *Gaff* on Thursday, December 16 along with **Ruben Limas** at *Island Italian*. On Friday the 16th **Matt Hole** will bring his rockabilly to the *Executive Surf Club*, **AudioBox** is at *Rocket's* and Americana stud **Kevin Fowler** plays *Brewster Downtown* along with **Carson Jeffrey**. That ought to hold you for a while.

And, that's the truth



Ron Baker will play Island Wine on Thursday.



The Groove played the VFW last Saturday night.



Whoopers at the Birding Center. Photo by Steve Coons

LIVE MUSIC TONIGHT

Thursday,

December 8

Ron Baker & Jon Dunaway @ Island Wine
Jesse Lopez @ Packery Bar
Splendiferous @ Brewster Downtown
Acoustic Open Mic @ Rockport Little Theater
Ruben Limas @ Island Italian
Lady Kat & Mattman @ Executive Surf Club

Friday,

December 9

Brad Ethridge @ Gaff
ChillBillies @ Legends, Fulton
Bri Bagwell @ Third Coast Theater
Jon Mikael MREZ @ Pelican
Kolby Cooper, Huser Bros @ Brewster Downtown
18 Hours @ Rocket's
Jon Mikael Mrez @ Pelican
Alonzo Cruz @ Packery Bar
Ruben Limas @ Blackbeard's
Ty Dietz @ Executive Surf Club

Saturday,

December 10

Lighted Boat Parade @ Port Aransas Harbor
BELT SANDER RACES (3 PM) @ Gaff
Coach Dude Dugan @ Gaff
LA POSADA @ Padre Island
Coastal Benders @ Island Wine
Radney Foster @ Third Coast Theater
OTB @ Rialto Theater AP
The Groove @ Rocket's
Triptonite, Corpus Creeps, Crucial Riddim @ House of Rock
Starlite & the Moonbeams @ Vernon's
Jam Council @ Executive Surf Club
Russell Boyd's Sing-Along Piano Bar @ Brewster Downtown
The Groove @ Rocket's
Chainlinks @ Pelican
Art Barrera @ Packery Bar
Ruben Limas @ The Barn
J.R. Cole @ Sarita Farms
Jennifer Gayle Bradley @ Blackbeard's

Sunday,

December 11

Barbara Janice @ Island Wine
Tumble Dry Low @ Bernie's
Upon a Burning Body @ House of Rock
Sonny Salinas @ Executive Surf Club
Jerry Ward @ Pelican
Ty Dietz @ Kody's

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Thursday: 7:30 Ron Baker & Jon Dunaway
Friday: Karaoke
Saturday: 7-10 Coastal Benders
Sunday: 3-6 Barbara Janice

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Monday,

December 12

Chuck Almarez @ Blackbeard's

Tuesday,

December 13

Open Mic @ House of Rock
Ruben Limas @ Blackbeard's
Austin Meade @ Brewster Downtown

Wednesday,

December 14

Riptide @ VFW
Dave's Duo @ Katz 21
Kevin Kurtz @ Pelican
Open Mic @ Executive Surf Club
Ruben Limas @ Blackbeard's

Thursday, December 15

Ugly Sweater Contest @ Gaff
Truism @ Executive Surf Club
Ron Baker & John Dunnaway @ Island Wine
Jerry Ward @ Pelican
Ruben Limas @ Island Italian
Brian Winfrey @ Blackbeard's

Friday, December 16

Ray Wylie Hubbard @ Third Coast Theater
Afterglow @ Pelican Lounge
Kevin Fowler, Carson Jeffrey @ Brewster Downtown
Audio Box @ Rocket's
Alonzo Cruz @ Packery Bar
Afterglow @ Pelican
Ruben Limas @ Blackbeard's
Matt Hole @ Executive Surf Club

Saturday,

December 17

The Daze @ VFW
Free Beer Band @ Island Wine
Ray Wylie Hubbard @ Third Coast Theater
Splendiferous @ Rocket's
Rockaholics @ Packery Bar
Ottis Media Music Fest @ House of Rock
Diamond's Edge @ Pelican
Jennifer Gayle Bradley @ Blackbeard's
Rudolph Llanes, John Elijah @ Executive Surf Club

Sunday,

December 18

Tumble Dry Low @ Bernie's
Barbara Janice @ Island Wine
Chainlinks @ Brewster

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