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Issue 1029



The Island Moon

The voice of The Island since 1996

January 5, 2024

www.islandmoon.com

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A New Path Brings New Memories By Lu Ann Kingsbury



By Dale Rankin

The cool temps as 2024 rolls in have Islanders searching the back of their closets for their pair of long pants and fur-lined flip flops. According to the Weather Wonks the average temperature for January here on our little sandbar is 57 degrees. That includes a lot of days in the 70's punctuated by a few says in the 40's. If 57 seems a bit low when you think of of how many sunny comfortable days we have in the 60's and even 70s just think is the average January temperature for Minnesota, Wisconsin, or Michigan and 57 doesn't seem so cold now.

Tom's rain report in this issue shows we have had about 30 inches of rain hereabouts in 2023 and as we wind our way into 2024 the lakes that are our water supply are at 30% capacity and we find ourselves under water restrictions that look to be part of everyday life now. City planners told the Corpus Christi City Council in December that it will take about 14 inches of rain in our watershed to get our head above water (restrictions) and when you consider that last year at this time the lake levels were at 44% things don't look good for being able to water the rocks in our yard with any frequency going forward. Keep in mind that the Island's water table is only a few feet below our feet and many homeowners Around The Island use well water for landscaping.

Packery Dredging

As reported in this issue a portion of Whitecap Beach is currently closed as the dredge material from Packery dredging is deposited there to widen the beach. The beach along the Michael J. Ellis Seawall is already pushing its way out into the Gulf of Mexico and the sand is still coming up from the Packery as crews dredge their way down to 14 feet.

Island American Legion

The Island American Legion post is having their first big event later this month with live music by Jake Bush and The Island's own Ty Dietz. It is a salute to service and will be held at Marker 37 so stop by if you can.

Barefoot Mardi Gras

The 2024 edition of Barefoot Mardi Gras kicks off on January 19 with a Fat Friday Kickoff Party complete with costume contest, silent auction, Cajun food and live music from The Groove. Tickets are \$25 and should be available on-line soon. No recreational vehicles on the Port Aransas ferry

As the cold weather drives the

Around cont. on A2

Island Bulkheads included in Padre Isles Management District

Created in 2013 and forgotten the district can issue bonds for bulkhead repairs and maintenance

By Dale Rankin

The bulkheads on Padre Island owned by the Padre Isles Property Owners Association are part of the Padre Isles Management District created by the City of Corpus Christi and the Texas legislature in its 2013 session which has the authority to issue bonds for the maintenance and repair of Island bulkheads, according to records from the State of Texas and the City of Corpus Christi.

In 2012 a group of Islanders concerned about the long-term future of Island bulkheads and the Michael J. Ellis Seawall initiated an effort to create a public entity that would allow for the issuance of bonds through the City of Corpus Christi to raise money in the case of a storm which caused damage to either. Creation of the district required action by City of Corpus Christi and the Texas Legislature. The effort resulted in the creation of the Padre Isles Municipal Management District by the Corpus Christi City Council in January, 2013. In addition to

Bulkheads cont. on A5



Going Native

Blue Land Crab Cardisoma



Cardisoma Blue Land Crab

By Ed Proffitt

As astute readers must know, I'm all about promoting native species over non-natives. Some non-native species do not spread rapidly in their novel environment and so are less of a problem of truly invasive non-natives such as Brazilian Pepper or lionfish whose very rapid population expansions have harmful effects on communities of native species. A recent news article over the holidays had me questioning the definition of invasive species. Georgia DNA

Native cont. on A8

A little Island history

Opening of Corpus Christi Pass Plan from 1967

When the dredging of Packery Channel was approved in 2000 it was the culmination of years of attempts to make a water pass through The Island. In 1967, the same year Hurricane Beulah cut The Island into more than a dozen pieces and opening the pass, a study was commissioned by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission to determine the feasibility of opening Corpus Christi Pass on a permanent basis. By 1970 the pass had silted shut but before the plan could be put

History cont. on page A5



Corpus Christi Pass when it was open.

By the numbers...

2023 Island Rains Below Normal Again

By Tom Cullinan
tom@cullinan.to

Island Moon Rain Report

Padre Island	Dec.	2023
Cayo Cantiles	4.90"	28.19"
Dyna Street	5.00"	29.74"
Elbow Street	5.10"	30.98"
Reales Drive	4.58"	30.15"
Scallop Street	4.83"	32.48"

Source: Community Collaborative

Rain, Hail, & Snow Network

Weather cont. on A3

Padre Island Real Estate Activity

November 16 - November 30

Cindy Molnar
Realtor
Coldwell Banker Island, Realtors

Waterfront Homes Sold

15122 Tesoro Drive
13721 Tajamar Street
45 Waterfront Homes Listed From \$479,900.00 to \$1,750,000.00

Interior Lot Homes Sold

15309 East Chesapeake
15253 Capstan Street
14317 Indigo Street
14945 Dasmarrinas Drive
14134 La Blanquilla Drive
13646 Catamaran Drive
47 Interior Lot Homes Listed From \$318,800.00 To \$789,000.00

Waterfront Condominiums/ Townhomes/Duplexes Sold

15425 Fortuna Bay Drive #211
15657 Cruiser Street
44 Waterfront Condominiums/ Townhomes/Duplexes Listed From \$140,000.00 To \$625,000.00

Interior Condominiums/ Townhomes/Duplexes Sold

15010 Leeward Drive #9303
14521 East Cabana Street #202
74 Interior Condominiums/ Townhomes/Duplexes Listed From \$194,900.00 To \$699,999.00

Real Estate cont. on A3

Around cont. from A1

Winter Texans south they will have to take the route over the JFK Bridge as word came this week that due to the lower winter tides recreational vehicles are not being allowed on the Port Aransas ferries. Historically the low winter tides, mostly windblown, were when the Dunn family who ranches The Island for decades, pushed their cattle across the Laguna Madre on the sandbar that ran from what is now the end of Whitecap Boulevard to Flour Bluff. What's bad news for Winter Texans is good news for Island cows...and so it goes. The new year...

A friend in Port Aransas called this week to remind us of a New Year's Eve long ago when word came from up that way that our friend T-Joe had broken his arm in two places in celebration of the holiday. "Oh man, the elbow and the wrist?" "No," came the reply. "Shorty's and the Flats." That's all for now everybody, we welcome our Winter Texan friends as they begin to arrive in coveys (or is it gaggles) this week. It's our chance to meet new people without having to go OTB and is one of the many perks of Island life. Say hello if you see them or us Around The Island.



Packery dredge January 2012

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 EMILY CLOWER Marketing Rep.	 STACEY LESLY Marketing Rep.	 JEANEAL DENNIS Marketing Rep.	



Brown Pelicans are considerably smaller than American White Pelicans, and their plumage is all dark, without the American White Pelican's contrast between gleaming white and jet black.



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New Year's Resolutions from Riley P. Dog

My human say it's a new year. Feels the same to me but here are my New Year's resolutions:

I resolve to eat more hotdogs. As many as I can get. Please send me some to the Save the Riley P. Dog Foundation in International Falls Minnesota.

I resolved to find the eighteen pounds I lost last year due to Dr. Kristi putting me on a diet. It will help if some humans send me hotdogs.

I resolve to bark at Little Yappy Dogs every time I get a chance. Stoopid Little Yappy Dogs...they sit in humans' laps. They have no shame.

I resolve to chase cats when there are no humans to yell at me. Stoopid Cats!

I resolve to eat as much cat food as I can get. I have to go upstairs to get it and sometimes I get caught and sometimes my humans block the stairs but they are fools.

Letters to the Editor



They can't stop me from getting the cat-food. Stoopid humans!

I resolve to whine until my humans take me to the beach when I am not chasing cats or eating catfood.

I resolve to hang my head out the car window and pretend I'm flying as often as I can. I'll drive myself when I can. I'm pretty good on right turns but left turns are hard so it will take me a while to get to the beach because I have to keep going around the block..If you see me coming you might want to stay on my right side.

I resolve to dig as many holes as I can. Sand holes are easy.

I resolve to catch a gopher this year. I've been trying for years but this is the year. Remember we dogs celebrate seven New Years for every one human New Year. Thanks everybody. Send hotdogs...International Falls...watch out for coyotes.

Rainwater and Desal

For the life of me I do not know why our city, state, and government leaders have not come up with a plan to collect rainwater that drains from public buildings to enhance our water supply.

Such a plan would consist of putting holding tanks at as many city buildings as needed with pump trucks to collect the water and haul it to the purification site. Implementing such a plan would cost pennies as compared to a \$billion for desal. Then again, a lot of projects that are implemented, cost a lot of money as well as causing a burden on the taxpayers. It seems like unless a lot of money is involved, nothing happens.

At the present there is a city plan that suggest that all homes would collect rainwater

or use well water to water their lawns. There is a very few homes that use rain or well water for their lawns. Making it mandatory would literally save mass amounts of water for public and industrial use since too much of our water sully is used to water lawns. Hopefully the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and other environmental organizations will voice their disapproval of the desal plan at the port because it poses a threat to the \$billion sport fishing industry. Collecting rainwater at all cities and our little fishing village by the sea could cause all of us to live very happily ever after.

Bobbie Kimbrell
(Note to the Editor: I came to Flour Bluff from Aransas Pass in 1944.)

Resurfacing Work Resuming on JFK Causeway Bridge Work Will Require Single Lane Closures

Beginning Wednesday, January 3 Texas Department of Transportation contractors resumed resurfacing travel lanes on the JFK Causeway bridge's main span with a polyester polymer overlay.

This work will require continuous, single-lane closures of the inside (left) lanes on the bridge's main span in both directions beginning at 7:00 a.m. Wednesday. This work, and the lane closures, will take place only on the bridge's main span, not the entire causeway.

The schedule shows the completion of the overlay work is approximately three weeks. The outside (right) eastbound and west-bound lanes will remain open during the overlay work.

As previously announced, once the overlay work is completed, crews will then resurface the approaches to the bridge. The resurfacing work will require alternating, continuous, single-lane closures. The resurfacing will conclude work on top of the bridge that would affect traffic, and it is expected to be completed by the end of February. Work may still be taking place under the bridge. The continuous, single-lane closures are a necessary part of the construction operation. Message boards are alerting drivers to the work and single-lane closures.

The maintenance project is designed to maximize the life of the bridge and to

reduce the overall life-cycle costs of the bridge. Again, the work being done is on the bridge that spans the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, not the entire causeway. 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 overlay travel surface will be applied to the bridge deck.



JFK Causeway Bridge. Photo By Augs

Weather cont. from A1

Bad weather rarely disrupted activities for island residents and visitors last year. It was the second consecutive year of below-normal rainfall on the island as two-thirds of our total 2023 precipitation occurred during just eight stormy days. We also endured four dry spells that stretched three to six weeks (late February into March, June–July, July–August, and August–September) when the gauge catch was zero. Last year's 30.31 inches (the average of five locations reporting from Padre Island) was far below our record 2021 rains that totaled 53 inches.

The highest single-day precipitation fell on our sandbar last December 15. More than four inches of the wet stuff was measured at four Padre Island locations, though these soakings were quite localized.

Heavy rain — one inch or more in a 24-hour period — was recorded only eight times last year. Three of these were in April and then again in June, August, October, November, and December.

Volunteer Weather Reporters

All Padre Island locations that regularly appear in the Island Moon Rain Report are only a few miles apart. However, their measurements sometimes vary by as much as one inch on a single day.

Island Moon Rain Report 2023: Padre Island Reporting Stations

Cayo Cantiles 28.19"
Dyna Street 29.74"
Elbow Street 30.98"
Reales Drive 30.15"
Scallop Street 32.48"

The Island Moon Rain Report uses data from the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail, & Snow Network (CoCoRaHS), a non-profit organization that was founded at Colorado State University in 1998. It relies on 10,000 volunteers in all 50 states who buy precision rain gauges, record daily precipitation amounts at their registered locations, and then report them online.

There are currently five active CoCoRaHS weather observers reporting from Padre Island, and about 30 others sprinkled across Nueces County.

Official Reports

The National Weather Service (NWS) in Corpus Christi has compiled rain totals dating to February 1887. Measured now at the city's airport, the annual average is 31.74" using all 137 years. According to the NWS, the lowest annual rainfall was a scant 5.38" in 1917 which is the only total under 12".

Corpus Christi NWS Rain Totals

	2023	Normal
January	0.72"	1.39"
February	0.19"	1.29"
March	0.72"	2.28"
April	7.49"	2.04"
May	3.33"	3.38"
June	0.80"	3.56"
July	0.39"	2.54"
August	5.04"	2.75"
September	1.01"	5.42"
October	3.47"	3.13"
November	4.10"	2.03"
December	0.46"	1.93"
Totals	27.72"	31.74"

Real Estate cont. from A1

Waterfront Lots

15110 Cane Harbor Blvd.
13534 Peseta Court
20 Waterfront Lots Listed From
\$219,900.00 To \$2,500,000.00

Interior Lots Sold

15646 Cruiser Street
15529 Escapade Street
00 Venito Del Mar Drive
26 Interior Lots Listed From \$96,200.00 to
\$3,000,000.00

Commercial Lots

12 Commercial Lots Listed From
\$110,000.00 To \$2,500,000.00

Moon Monkeys

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Senior Moments

Senior Moments Special to The Island Moon

By Dotson Lewis

Nuclear Testing Part 1



Dotson's Note: The history of nuclear testing began early on the morning of 16 July 1945 at a desert test site in Alamogordo, New Mexico when the United States exploded its first atomic bomb. Thanks to Major Huffly and Captain Cabin (Both U.S. Army), for the facts contained in this report, and to Rick Bajornas, UP, and CTBTO, for the photos.

In the five decades between that fateful day in 1945 and the opening for signature of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) in 1996, over 2,000 nuclear tests were carried out all over the world.

- **The United States** conducted **1,032** tests between 1945 and 1992.
- **The Soviet Union** carried out **715** tests between 1949 and 1990.
- **The United Kingdom** carried out **45** tests between 1952 and 1991.
- **France** carried out **210** tests between 1960 and 1996.
- **China** carried out **45** tests between 1964 and 1996.
- **India** carried out **1** test in 1974.

Since the CTBT was opened for signature in September 1996, it is known that approximately 10 nuclear tests have been conducted (it's not always known if every test is *reported):

- **India** conducted **two** tests in 1998.
- **Pakistan** conducted **two** tests in 1998.
- **The Democratic People's Republic of Korea** conducted nuclear tests in 2006, 2009, 2013, 2016, and 2017.

Nuclear explosions have been detonated in all environments: above ground, underground and underwater. Bombs have been detonated on top of towers, onboard barges, suspended from balloons, on the earth's surface, underwater to depths of 600m, underground to depths of more than 2,400m and in horizontal tunnels. Test bombs have been dropped by aircraft and fired by rockets up to 200 miles into the atmosphere.

Atmospheric testing refers to explosions which take place in or above the atmosphere.

All told, of the over 2,000 nuclear explosions detonated worldwide between 1945 and 1996, 25 % or over 500 bombs were exploded in the atmosphere: over 200 by the United States, over 200 by the Soviet Union, about 20 by Britain, about 50 by France and over 20 by China.



Photo: Signing of the Partial Test Ban Treaty, 5 August 1963. Secretary of State Dean Rusk signing for the United States; Foreign Minister Andre Gromyko, signing for the Soviet Union; and Lord Hume signing for the United Kingdom.

International concern over radioactive fallout resulting from atmospheric tests escalated in the mid 1950s. In March 1954, the United States tested its hydrogen bomb Castle Bravo in the Pacific's Marshall Islands. The Bravo test created the worst radiological disaster in the United States' testing history. By accident, local civilians on the Marshall Islands, US servicemen stationed on Rongerik atoll, and the Japanese fishing trawler Lucky Dragon, were contaminated with the fallout.

Nuclear weapon tests have been carried out in all environments: above ground, underground and underwater. Atmospheric testing was banned by the 1963 Partial Test Ban Treaty. Negotiations had largely responded to the international community's grave concern over the radioactive fallout resulting from atmospheric tests. The United States, the Soviet Union and the United Kingdom became Parties to the Treaty; France and China did not. France conducted its last atmospheric test in 1974, China in 1980.

Underwater testing refers to explosions which take place underwater or close to the surface of the water. Relatively few underwater tests have been conducted. The first underwater nuclear test — Operation Crossroads — was conducted by the United States in 1946 at its Pacific Proving Grounds in the Marshall

Islands with the purpose of evaluating the effects of nuclear weapons used against naval vessels. Later, in 1955, the United States' Operation Wigwam conducted a single underwater nuclear test at a depth of 600 m to determine the vulnerability of submarines to nuclear explosions.

Underwater nuclear explosions close to the surface can disperse large amounts of radioactive water and steam, contaminating nearby ships, structures and individuals. Underwater nuclear testing was banned by the 1963 Partial Test Ban Treaty. Of the over 2,000 nuclear explosions detonated worldwide between 1945 and 1996, 25% or over 500 bombs were exploded in the atmosphere.



Underground testing means that nuclear explosions are detonated at varying depths under the surface of the earth. These comprised the majority (i.e. about 75%) of all nuclear explosions detonated during the Cold War (1945–1989); that is, over 800 of all tests conducted by the United States and nearly 500 of all tests conducted by the Soviet Union. When the explosion is fully contained, underground nuclear testing emits negligible fallout compared to atmospheric testing. However, if underground nuclear tests “vent” to the surface, they can produce considerable radioactive debris. Underground testing is usually evident through seismic activity related to the yield of the nuclear device. Underground nuclear testing was banned by the 1996 Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) that bans all nuclear explosions on Earth. 75% of all nuclear test explosions during the cold war were conducted underground. Nuclear Testing 1945–2009--the beginning of the nuclear era. The United States launched the Nuclear Age in the pre-dawn hours of 16 July 1945 when it detonated a 20-kiloton atomic bomb code-named “Trinity” at Alamogordo, New Mexico. While the Alamogordo test demonstrated many of the explosion's effects, it failed to provide a meaningful comprehension of radioactive nuclear fallout, which was not well understood by project scientists until years later. We all know that the United States dropped two atomic bombs on Japan towards the end of World War II: one called “Little Boy” on Hiroshima on 6 August 1945; another called “Fat Man” on Nagasaki on 9 August. Together these two bombs killed some 220,000 Japanese citizens outright, with over 200,000 more dying subsequently from lethal radiation overdoses.



*So far, no luck in finding this report. *Dotson's Other Note: No sooner was World War II brought to a close in August 1945 than an all-out technical-industrial nuclear weapons race ensued between the two newly emerging superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union. Between 1946 and 1949, the United States conducted an additional six tests. Then on 29 August 1949, the Soviet Union tested its first atomic bomb, “Joe 1”. This test marked the beginning of the “Cold War” nuclear arms race between the two superpowers. FOR YOUR INFORMATION: The weekly Veterans Round Table meetings are on Thursdays 9-11AM. All veterans, their families and anyone interested in veterans' activities, are invited. The meeting location is at Del Mar College, Center for Economic Development, 3209 S. Staples. (Across from Ray High School). Also, the Veterans Radio Round Table is on the air on KEYS AM 1440 & 98.7 FM, 8 – 10 a.m., Saturdays. Please listen and call in or text. The listener/text line is: 361-882-5397. It's your two hours; please let us hear from you.*



Stuff I Heard on the Island

By Dale Rankin

It's one thing to pass the New Year milestone and say you're going to quit some things; you know, Twinkie sandwiches, using the squirt gun to teach the dog to count, live bait because it's really just not fair...stuff like that. But smoking is not one of those things to quit lightly. Smokers are different.

On the hottest day of a Texas August a group of usually right thinking people will go stand out in the steaming parking lot and watch the pavement melt while they suck cancer causing agents into their vital organs. They know it makes no sense but they just keep doing it anyway. Year after year they grow more and more distant from the reality that they are smoking thirty cigarettes every day of their lives until it becomes perfectly reasonable to pay \$6 a pack for the privilege. These are not rational people these are nic addicts.

Nicotine slaves are all the same

At a petting party or a poker game

Everything got to stop while they smoke that cigarette

Wheezing Nation

I know it's tough to quit. When I was busting bolts in the oil field we were nuts for the Copenhagen and we'd dip that snuff all day long. It would sit there in our lower lip and make our hands shake like a little nicotine engine driving its way through the high-ways and byways of our nervous systems. It took me three times to quit that stuff. I'd get the shakes and the bends and nightmares and backslide and then quit again; so I get it. It ain't easy.

But if me and a certain character met

The guy that invented the cigarette

I'd murder that son-of-a-gun in the first degree

Year of Bad Eyebrows

So a few years ago my smoking friends decided to quit together separately – or is it separately together? Sort of like graduate school except they actually quit. They all simultaneously decided to quit but weren't sure they could do it and then found fellow travelers who had reached the same crossroads and found collective resolve. I egged them on by having them sit in a restaurant while I picked the smokers out of the crowd. You could tell them by the leathery skin on their faces that had lost its fight with gravity about two decades ahead of Mother Nature's schedule.

“That's you and you don't even know it,” I told them. They grumbled and called me names in their gravelly voices but they knew I was right. So they made a pact. Like all good contracts it was written on a piece of paper we got from the cocktail waitress and was sealed with a clean cut outcome; the first quitter to light up had to shave their eyebrows. The Brown Badge of Courage or something like that.

Various options for quitting were discussed. Mariner Dave was a two-pack a day man and he quit Cold Turkey. Not the approach for the faint of heart. Then there's the gum, which one of our friends was on for five years before she went back to smoking. There's always the patch but no one is really sure what's in those things and besides they don't address the oral fixation (see Dr. Freud Chapter 6 Under “ID”).

There was the heart attack option: Like the creaky old City Editor with the face like an old catcher's mitt told me on my first newspaper job, “Welcome to the newspaper business son, where you can smoke at your desk while you wait for your second heart attack so you can retire with a thousand dollars in the bank.” A thousand dollars in the bank seemed like a pipe dream in those days. And there was the tale of the editor who had his first heart attack and came back to work with the proclamation, “That heart attack was a booger man, I need a cigarette.” The heart attack option was decided to be the last resort for quitting, for now the idea was dead on arrival. It seemed extreme and besides, as every smoker knows, heart attacks and lung cancer are things that happen to other smokers not to them.

It ain't because I don't smoke myself

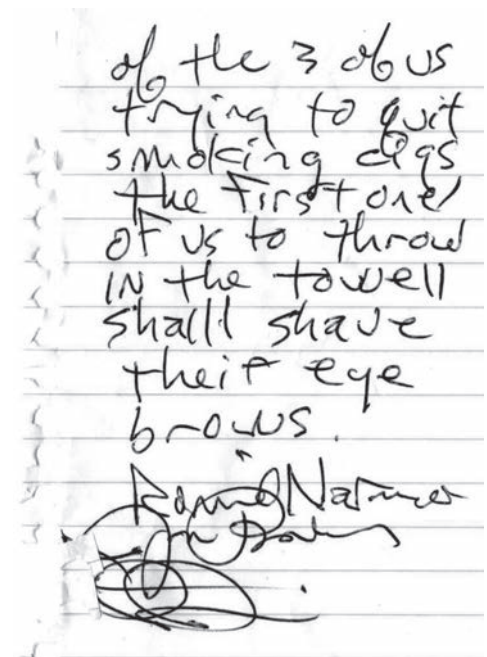
And I don't reckon that it'll harm your health

Smoked all my life and I ain't dead yet

On behalf of all Islanders I hope that approach works for hurricanes too.

Vapor locked and loaded

The decision was made that the electronic cigarette was the cure. You inhale water vapor with some nicotine mixed in then, so the theory goes, you reduce the amount of nicotine until you quit for good. Along the way you still get the sensation of sucking



Cigarette contract.

something besides oxygen into to your lungs, which is something that appeals to the smoking crowd (once again see Dr. Freud).

I've always contended a big part of quitting was the numerous smoke breaks and office gossip sessions that smokers get while the non-smoking crowd labors on. This is fine at government jobs where everybody hides for long “breaks” but at a real job I have seen it become a real bone of contention in. The electronic cigarette continued this hallowed tradition but without the lung tar, which of course the smokers would prefer but are trying to live without.

So how'd it go?

In the end only Ronnie quit. In a sort of Honor Among Thieves way they each blame it on the fact that they have yet to go OTB to buy the electronic cigarette. They all except Ronnie were nicotine backsliders and one of them even stole the cigarette that has been stuck in the mouth of my Moon Monkey hat on my desk that has been there for two years. Like many “quitters” what they really meant was they were going to quit buying cigarettes not smoking them.

So now you can still find them out there in the howling January wind bragging about how this is only the third cigarette they've had today, in spite of the fact that they have made six trips to the smoking area. I've learned that counting cigarettes to smokers is like counting years in dogs – only in reverse. By smokers math a pack of cigarettes only contains about eight sticks.

They say they are all still going to quit and I preserved what is now known as the Eyebrow Contract because I know if they had a chance to abdicate it they would. The frequently asked question is how will we know that each of the quitters is still Master of Their Domain? After all it's an honor system among addicts, enough said on that.

Well, the answer is simple: When one of them backslides the non-smokers can smell them a mile away. When that happens we say, “Welcome to the other team hackers. We've been living with that stench for years. You are one of us now, and old Yellow Teeth over there looks pretty dang funny without any eyebrows doesn't he?”

Smoke, smoke, smoke that cigarette

Puff, puff, puff and if you smoke yourself to death

Tell St. Peter at the Pearly Gate

That you hate to make him wait

But you just got to have another cigarette

The good news is that every time someone smokes a cigarette it adds a minute to Keith Richard's life, how else could he have made it to eighty?

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Real Estate

Bulkheads cont. from A1

Island bulkheads the city map of the district includes the Michael J. Ellis Seawall. Creation of the district then found its way to Austin under the sponsorship of State Representative Todd Hunter and at Hunter’s insistence the Management District would not contain the power to tax. What was subsequently passed was styled as Added by Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 607 (S.B. 1098), Sec. 1, eff. June 14, 2013. There is nothing currently found in a search of city records that indicates the Padre Isles Management District was ever dissolved, nor that a board of directors currently exists.

What is it?

The following language is taken from the bill, portions of which read as follows: CREATION AND NATURE OF DISTRICT. The Padre Isles Management District is a special district created under Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution. (2) “Bulkhead property” means all bulkheads in the district owned by the district or owned or previously owned by the Padre Isles Property Owners Association, including any associated easements. (c) The district is created to supplement and not to supplant city services provided in the district. (d) The district will: (1) promote the health, safety, and general welfare of residents, employers, potential employees, employees, visitors, and consumers in the district, and of the public; (2) seek and provide needed funding for the district to preserve, maintain, and enhance the economic health and vitality of the district territory as a residential community and business center; and (3) promote the health, safety, welfare, and enjoyment of the public by providing for the preservation of bulkhead property and the navigable waters surrounding Padre Island. (e) The district will not act as the agent or instrumentality of any private interest even though the district will benefit many private interests as well as the public. SUBCHAPTER B. BOARD OF DIRECTORS Sec. 3912.051. GOVERNING BODY; TERMS. The district is governed by a board of five voting directors who serve staggered terms of four years with two or three directors’ terms expiring June 1 of each odd-numbered year. The governing body of the city shall appoint directors from persons recommended by the board. Sec. 3912.052. QUALIFICATIONS OF DIRECTORS APPOINTED BY CITY. (a) To be qualified to serve as a director appointed by the governing body of the city, a person must be: (1) a resident of the district who is also a registered voter of the district; (2) an owner of property in the district; (3) an owner of stock or a partnership or membership interest, whether beneficial or otherwise, of a corporate partnership, limited liability company, or other entity owner of a direct or indirect interest in property in the district; (4) an owner of a beneficial interest in a trust, or a trustee in a trust, that directly or indirectly owns property in the district; (5) an agent, employee, or tenant of a person described by Subdivision (2), (3), or (4); or (6) an initial director. (b) Section 49.052, Water Code, does not apply to the district. Sec. 3912.056. OFFICERS. The board shall elect from among the directors a chair, a vice chair, and a secretary. The offices of chair and secretary may not be held by the same person. Sec. 3912.103. LIABILITY RESULTING FROM DISTRICT ACTION. An action of the district or the board does not create a liability against the city or any other political subdivision. Sec. 3912.104. NO EMINENT DOMAIN POWER. The district may not exercise the power of eminent domain. **What can it do?** Sec. 3912.102. AGREEMENTS; GRANTS. (a) As provided by Chapter 375, Local Government Code, the district

may make an agreement with or accept a gift, grant, or loan from any person. Sec. 3912.131. IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AND SERVICES; LIMITATIONS. (a) The district may provide, design, construct, acquire, improve, relocate, operate, maintain, or finance an improvement project or service described by Subsection (b) using any money available to the district, or contract with a governmental or private entity to provide, design, construct, acquire, improve, relocate, operate, maintain, or finance an improvement project or service authorized under this chapter and Chapter 375, Local Government Code. (b) The district may undertake an improvement project or service only as necessary to reconstruct, preserve, and maintain bulkhead property.

Bonding authority

The legislation allows the issuance of bonds by the district for repairing and maintaining bulkheads within the district. That section of the bill reads as follows: SUBCHAPTER E. BONDS Sec. 3912.201. BONDS AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS. (a) The district may issue, by public or private sale, bonds, notes, or other obligations payable wholly or partly from district revenue. (b) In exercising the district’s borrowing power, the district may issue a bond or other obligation in the form of a bond, note, certificate of participation or other instrument evidencing a proportionate interest in payments to be made by the district, or other type of obligation. (c) District bonds may be secured and made payable wholly or partly by a pledge of any part of the money the district receives from improvement revenue or from any other source. Sec. 3912.202. BOND MATURITY. Bonds may mature not more than 30 years from their date of issue.

Where do things stand?

The first board of directors, found in city files, was created on September 22, 2015, when the city council made the appointments. The last reference found in city files is May, 2019 when three new board members were appointed with terms to run through June 1, 2023 with the terms of the members appointed in 2015 set to expire in September, 2019. No entries in the city records indicate any board members have been appointed since that time meaning that all of the board seats are currently vacant with last appointments expiring in June, 2023. There are no entries to be found in city records of the dissolution of the District, the applicable bill language reads as follows: SUBCHAPTER F. DISSOLUTION Sec. 3912.251. DISSOLUTION BY CITY ORDINANCE. (a) The city by ordinance may dissolve the district. (b) The city may not dissolve the district until the district’s outstanding debt or contractual obligations that are payable from any source available to the district have been repaid or discharged, or the city has affirmatively assumed the obligation to pay the outstanding debt from city revenue. As stated above: The governing body of the city shall appoint directors from persons recommended by the board and since the terms of all of the board members have expired and there is no record of any appointments by the Corpus Christi City Council on or after June 1, 2023 (the last odd-numbered year) there is nothing in city records to indicate there is currently a seated (appointed) board meaning the council could potentially fill all five seats at their discretion. Which new members would be “recommended by the board” is unclear since there currently is no board found listed in city records and the current list of city boards does not mention of the Padre Isles Management District. The Island Moon has submitted an Open Records Request with the City of Corpus Christi for any all records regarding the Padre Isles Management District and will report the results when they become available.

History cont. from A1

into effect Hurricane Celia roared through the Coastal Bend and opened it again. The exact location of Corpus Christi Pass has moved around over the last few decades. What was originally Corpus Christi Pass was actually a series of passes which began at the bay side of what is now Fish Pass and ran parallel to the beach all the way down The Island to what is now the end of Whitecap Boulevard. The last remnant of the historic Corpus Christi Pass is Lake Padre. The pass historically was considered the dividing line between Padre and Mustang Islands. That line now is Packery Channel which was originally part of the Corpus Christi Pass system. But as far back as the 1960s there was an acknowledged need for a permanent water-exchange pass between the Gulf and Corpus Christi Bay. A study was commissioned in February of 1967 by the firm of Turner, Collie & Braden based in Houston and presented to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission in June of that year. The idea of cutting the pass was done in an attempt to reduce salinity levels in the Upper Laguna. It was part of a larger plan to combat hypersalinity in the Laguna. The study concluded that a pass could be cut through Mustang and Padre Islands but jetties would be needed to keep it open in the long term. It called for “heavy stone revetments...to fix the Gulf mouth of the pass and protect it from wave attack.” It also called for the revetments to be at the terminus of jetties which would be a total of 1400 feet in length, bordering a channel that would be ten-feet deep by one hundred feet across

on the Gulf side of the beach and sixty-feet wide and seven-feet deep on the bay side. The side slopes would be at a ratio of one vertical to three horizontal. Heavy stone revetments would run from the Gulf end of the jetties to a distance of 1000 feet landward with layers of stone weighing up to three tons and to a thickness of six feet. Lighter stones weighing up to 400 pounds would then be placed inside the rocks from the Gulf mouth to the point where the channel emptied into the bay. The jetties would be 400 feet apart on the Gulf side and extend a mere 400 feet out beyond the beach. The exact length would be determined not by designers but by the budget. The total budget for the project varied from \$2.7 million for 1000-foot jetties to \$5.4 million for 2200-foot jetties with half of the costs being the actually construction costs of the jetties themselves and the remainder for engineering, inspections and labor. Annual dredging was anticipated to cost between \$66,000 and \$100,000. But over the years as The Island was battered by hurricanes and attentions shifted to rebuilding rather than new construction the idea for a permanent Corpus Christ Pass was forgotten. Jetties were built at Fish Pass but lost the battle with Mother Nature and sealed shut. It wasn’t until 2005 when the tidal surge of a hurricane washed the last plug of sand from the nearly complete Packery Channel that The Island had a permanent water exchange pass. *Dale Rankin*

Save the date

Rotary Club of Padre Island Invites the Community to ‘Nite at the Races 2024’

By Linda Moyer Walsh The Rotary Club of Padre Island, is not just a group of individuals; it’s a beacon of community spirit and philanthropy. This year, they are excited to announce they are bringing back, an Island Favorite activity, “Nite at the Races 2024,” a unique blend of fun and fundraising. Founded on the principles of service and fellowship, the Rotary Club of Padre Island has been an integral part of the community. Comprising local leaders, professionals, and passionate individuals, the club has spearheaded numerous initiatives aimed at enhancing the quality of life in Padre Island and the surrounding Corpus Christi area. From beach clean-ups to educational support, the club’s activities are diverse, but their upcoming event, “Nite at the Races 2024,” promises to be a highlight of their calendar. Slated for Thursday, April 11, 2024, this event is more than just an evening of entertainment; it’s a chance to bring the community together for a cause. “Nite at the Races 2024” is an innovative, interactive event where participants can experience the thrill of horse racing in a fun, simulated environment. The evening will include simulated horse races, betting with funny money, prizes, dinner, and drinks, ensuring a memorable experience for all attendees. The event isn’t just about having a good time; it’s a fundraiser with a purpose. We are pleased to announce HardKnocks will be the location of this exciting event. The proceeds from “Nite at the Races 2024” will go towards various community service projects. These projects range from local environmental efforts to educational initiatives, such as the enhancement and maintenance of Maryanne’s Way Memorial Park at the end of Whitecap and the addition of a Memorial paver park. The Butterfly and Bee Gardens partnering with our Seashore Schools and the community to preserve and protect natural habitats on the island helping to save the endangered Monarch butterflies and increase the bee population. We will educate individuals with the help of local naturalists and Master Gardeners in our community to learn about the necessity of bees and pollination for sustainable food sources for the future, participating with the help and resources of the PI Rotary.

Various programs to help and serve our local Veterans. The SIL program, Supervised Independent Living, a partnership with TAMU-CC and the Department of Family and Protective Services to help young adults aging out of Foster Care to transition from foster care to independent living at TAMU-CC while earning a degree. Adoption Awareness is one of our most endearing projects held two times per year at various locations in our community. Partnering with the Department of Family and Protective Services we provide a memorable day for children in the foster program to help facilitate adoptions with vetted individuals, while providing these children time to reunite with siblings for a fun day with games and food. These projects and many more are aimed at enriching our beloved Island and its residents. The Rotary Club of Padre Island is extending an open invitation to the entire community to join in on this exciting event. It’s an opportunity to have fun, meet new people, and most importantly, contribute to meaningful causes. Tickets for “Nite at the Races 2024” are available now. Those interested in participating, sponsoring, or learning more about the event can visit <https://padreislandrotary.org/nite-at-the-races>. In the words of the club Chairman, “Nite at the Races is more than just a fundraiser; it’s a testament to what we can achieve when we come together for the greater good.” We are thrilled to host this event and look forward to an unforgettable evening. Mark your calendars for April 11, 2024 and be ready to experience the thrill of the race while contributing to the betterment of our community. The Rotary Club of Padre Island is not just hosting an event; they are setting the pace for community engagement and positive change. For more information on The Rotary Club of Padre Island contact Linda Moyer Walsh at lawalshva@yahoo.com and our FB page, Padre Island Rotary Club. The club meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at HardKnocks at 5:30 pm in the back meeting room. Come and join us anytime and get a glimpse of what we are all about.



Damaged Canal Bulkhead. Photo by Augs

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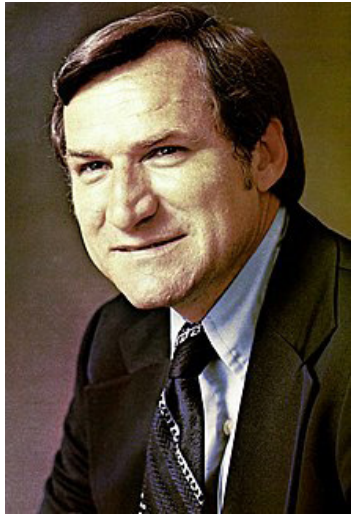
Sports Talk Special to The Island Moon

Dean Smith Basketball Coach



By Dotson Lewis

Dotson's Note: Dean Smith was born in Emporia, Kansas, on February 28, 1931. Both of his parents were public school teachers. Smith's father, Alfred, coached the Emporia High Spartans basketball team to the 1934 state title in Kansas. This 1934 team was notable for having the first African American basketball player in Kansas tournament history. Thanks to Bill Morgan, Dallas Shirely and Bobby Dibler for the facts contained in this report and to Bill Morgan for the photos.



While at Emporia High School for two years and then at Topeka High School, Smith lettered in basketball all four years and was named all-state in basketball as a senior. Smith's interest in sports was not limited to basketball. Smith also played quarterback for his high school football team and catcher for the high school baseball team.

After graduating from high school, Smith attended the University of Kansas on an academic scholarship. He majored in mathematics and joined Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. While at Kansas, Smith continued his interest in sports by playing varsity basketball, varsity baseball, and freshman football. He was also a member of the Air Force ROTC detachment. During his time on the varsity basketball team, Kansas won the national championship in 1952. In 1953, the team was an NCAA tournament finalist. Smith's basketball coach during his time at Kansas was Phog Allen, who had been coached at the University of Kansas by the inventor of basketball, James Naismith. After graduation, Smith served as assistant coach at Kansas in the 1953–54 season.

Smith was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant on June 7, 1954, in the United States Air Force and was stationed at Fürstentfeldbruck Air Base in Germany where he was on a team that won the Air Force championship for Europe. He later worked as a head coach of United States Air Force Academy's baseball and golf teams. Yet, Smith's big break would come in the United States. In 1958, North Carolina coach Frank McGuire asked Smith to join his staff as an assistant coach. Smith served under McGuire for three years until 1961, when McGuire was forced to resign by Chancellor William Aycock in the wake of a major recruiting scandal, and consequently, an NCAA mandated probation.



Smith (right) during the UNC v. North Carolina State game in 1964

Years later, Aycock recalled that McGuire came to his office on a Saturday and told him he was resigning. Smith was waiting in McGuire's car outside South Building (UNC's main administration building), so Aycock called him in and asked him if he wanted to take over as head coach. Smith accepted, and the hiring was formally

announced the following Monday. When Aycock named Smith as head coach, he told the 30-year-old Smith that wins and losses didn't matter as much as running a clean program and representing the university well.

The Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) had canceled the Dixie Classic, an annual basketball tournament in Raleigh, North Carolina, due to a national point-shaving scandal including a North Carolina player (Lou Brown). As a result of the scandal, North Carolina de-emphasized basketball by cutting their regular-season schedule. In Smith's first season, North Carolina played only 17 games and went 8–9.

This was the only losing season he endured during his career. In 1965, he was famously hanged in effigy on the university campus following a disappointing loss to Wake Forest. After that game, UNC would win nine of their last eleven games, and Smith would subsequently go on to turn the program into a consistent success. From 1965 to 1966 onward, Smith's teams never finished worse than tied for third in the ACC. For the first 21 of those years, they did not finish worse than a tie for second. By comparison, during that time the ACC's other charter members each finished last at least once.

Smith's first major successes came in the late 1960s, when his teams won consecutive regular-season and ACC tournament championships, and went to three straight Final Fours, going all the way to the national championship game in 1968. They would appear in either the NCAA or NIT in every one of Smith's final 31 years in Chapel Hill. However, this run occurred in the middle of UCLA's stretch of 10 titles in 12 years, and in fact Smith lost to UCLA's John Wooden in the 1968 title game.



Above, Smith cutting down the nets after winning the 1982 NCAA championship.

Dean won his first national championship with his 1981–82 team, which was composed of future NBA players such as Michael Jordan, James Worthy and Sam Perkins. After winning the NCAA tournament, North Carolina had a record of 32–2. The other teams that advanced with North Carolina were Georgetown, Houston and Louisville. The Tar Heels actually finished in a tie for first in the ACC regular season with the Ralph Sampson-led Virginia Cavaliers. In the semifinals, North Carolina defeated Houston 68–63 in New Orleans, while Georgetown defeated Louisville 50–46.

The national title game against Georgetown was evenly matched throughout. However, with 17 seconds left on the clock, and the Tar Heels behind by 1 point, Jordan made what ended up being the game-winning shot to put the Tar Heels up 63–62. On Georgetown's ensuing possession, Hoya guard Fred Brown inexplicably passed the ball directly to Worthy with no Georgetown player anywhere near the pass. Worthy attempted to dribble out the clock, but was fouled with 2 seconds left. He missed both free throws, but Georgetown had no timeouts left. The Hoyas missed a halfcourt shot as time expired, giving Smith his first national championship in his seventh appearance in the Final Four.

Dotson's Other Note: If any of you Moon Monkeys are interested, next week, we will discuss the rest of the story of one of the very best, COACH DEAN SMITH!



By Andy Purvis

Down For the Count

The event drew 5,000 people, standing room only. NBC decided to televise the spectacle. When their television producers walked into the building, they gasped and said, "Oh my, if we could just put this building on wheels." That building was of course Memorial Coliseum, the Madison Square Garden of the Coastal Bend. "It was the perfect fight venue because every seat in the house was a great seat," said promoter Lester Bedford. The ceiling was low and rounded and smoking was permitted at that time. The haze of the smoke hung over the ring as the boxers battled it out in front of a packed house. It was loud and the fans colorful, a perfect setting for showing a fight on television. From 1954 until 2004, boxing was the biggest professional sport in Corpus Christi, Texas. That's where I first saw Hector Luis "Macho" Camacho in person. Macho Man was a young, brash kid from Bayamon, Puerto Rico. Some guys have a chip on their shoulder; he had a whole cord of wood. He came into the fight with eleven wins and no defeats. They should have hung a sign over Camacho's dressing room door that said "Speed Kills;" he just had such energy. With lightning-quick hands he could hit you so many times you thought you were surrounded. His challenger, Rafael Williams, sported an equally impressive record of 19-1. On May 20, 1984, Macho Man danced while Williams kept catching Camacho's right-hand jabs with his face. The fight was stopped in the 7th round and ruled a TKO (technical knockout) in favor of Camacho. At 5' 6" tall and weighing 133 pounds, Hector was a middleweight, a star waiting his turn to shine. Hector wore his hair cut close with a spit curl that hung down in the middle of his forehead. His body was bronzed and his shoulders were broad enough to serve breakfast on. He was a southpaw. He owned guts, wanted glory, and was fifty miles away from being smart.

Hector Luis Camacho Matias was born on May 24, 1962. He was the youngest of five children. At the age of three, Hector moved to New York City's Spanish Harlem with his mom, Maria, and took up boxing by the age of fifteen. He had been kicked out of six different schools, but managed to win the New York City Golden Gloves Titles, three different times. He was an admitted car thief, a drug user and had been arrested for shoplifting. He eventually served time in prison at Rikers Island. Pat Flannery, a language teacher who taught him to read, became a father figure to Hector. It was Flannery who is credited with giving Camacho his nickname. Sometimes even the harshest of sports acts as a rescue for some. It has been said that in ancient times strangers shook hands to show they were unarmed. That did not apply to the sweet science of boxing. A precise counter-puncher, Camacho became a flamboyant fighter during a time when the sport was in

its heyday. Hector looked like an extra in a gladiator movie. He would dress in unforgettable style and was always a favorite on the Las Vegas strip. He wore dazzling outfits and dressed as a Roman gladiator, in an American Indian headdress, Army camouflage trunks with helmet, a Puerto Rican flag outfit, and cheetah-skin trunks. He won four World Championships in three different weight divisions. Those divisions were listed as super flyweight, lightweight, and junior welterweight. Camacho would win one war after another. He had the temper of a gangster and was so mean he would kick puppies. Along the way he won a unanimous decision over Freddie Roach and Vinny Pazienza and a split decision over Edwin Rosario and Ray "Boom Boom" Mancini. On September 12, 1992, in Las Vegas, Camacho lost a unanimous decision to Julio Cesar Chavez. Camacho's record now stood at 27-2. On January 29, 1994, he lost a third time, to Felix Trinidad. On April 22, 1996, Macho Man returned to Corpus Christi to fight Wilbur Garst. This was a tune-up fight for Roberto Duran. The fight was stopped in the seventh round by TKO; Camacho was again a winner. I was at ringside with my pal Scott Robinson; what a fight. Angelo Dundee was Hector Camacho's trainer.

A total of 17 World Champions have fought in the old building: From Frankie Warren to Buddy McGirt, Jesse Benavides to Ronnie Shields, Lupe Suarez to Evander Holyfield, "Sweet Pea" Whitaker to Meldrick Taylor, and Jorge Paez to "Jesse" James Leija. I even remember Jerry Quarry singing the National Anthem before a fight at the coliseum. Yeah, the old gal had seen a lot. The coliseum was finally torn down in 2010. Camacho would retire in 2010. His thirty-year career record stands at 79-6-3 with 45 knockouts. It seems kind of odd these days to write about boxing, a sport in which a concussion is usually the preferred outcome, while the game of football goes on trial every day in regards to eliminating concussions.

On Tuesday, November 20, 2012, Hector Camacho was shot in the left side of his face while sitting with a friend in a black Ford Mustang. His friend, Adrian Moreno, was also killed by the drive-by shooter. After surgery, he was declared brain dead on Thursday and removed from life support. Camacho threw his last jab at life on Saturday, November 24, 2012. He was 50 years old and died of a heart attack. Cocaine was found at the scene, and there was no arrest at that time. There is no doubt that he lived in the fast lane, as dangerously as he fought. Camacho had five children from different relationships. Camacho's son, Hector Camacho Jr., is also a boxer like his dad, who is also survived by his parents. In life as in death, time moves forward. Macho Man and fight night at Memorial Coliseum are no more.



The Memorial Coliseum. Photo Courtesy of the Caller Times

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Island Outdoors



By Jay Gardner

On the Rocks

My neighbor Bob and I were visiting about shoreline erosion around the city the other day, and he mentioned that he saw a big pile of broken concrete on the side of the road in Flour Bluff that was headed for disposal. We also visited about the bull rock that someone put on the north edges of the JFK Causeway in the vicinity of the bridge. We're still not sure who did that, and we're glad that someone is trying, but it's kind of a thin band aid. As the city moves to using more concrete in projects, and these projects near their design lifetime and have to be repaired, this is providing for lots of broken concrete. Most of the contractors are figuring in recycling and selling the broken concrete in order to ameliorate material cost increases, however there are other things that could be done.

I was visiting with Parks and Rec's committee ex-chair Alissa the other day, as she had been chasing shoreline erosion with some of the city parks, especially on the bay facing north. This shoreline is where we are literally losing ground as I type this article here in January with a 25 mph north wind. These parks include North Beach, Ropes, Doddridge, Poesnish, Hans and Pat Suter Wildlife Refuge (there has been a little movement there lately), South Bay Park, and of course what we have happening on the Island around the causeway. South Bay Park and the JFK Causeway access roads are great examples of what happens when you're not proactive about shoreline erosion.

One of the perceived issues with shoreline protection is the permitting aspect of a project, mainly through the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and/or the Texas General Land Office (GLO) depending on where you put your hard engineered protection (and it pretty much has to be a hardened solution due to \$\$ and permitting timing). Nationwide Permit #13 – Bank Stabilization allows you to place material centered on the mean high tide for up to 500 linear feet in a density no more than 1 cubic yard per linear foot. There are a few other conditions, but generally shoreline protection projects can occur without formal permitting, and I mean like yesterday (you loyal readers know that this is part of

what I do for a living). The short story is that there are materials of opportunity literally piled up all over the city that could be used to stem the erosion issues before they get out of hand.

City Council

City council next week looks kind of fun; they will be discussing the developer reimbursement funds which always creates sparks, the creation of a TIRZ #6 associated with the old Pharaoh's golf course, and miracle of miracles, an extension to the lease agreement with Riley P. Dog Park and the City. I have a feeling that public comment will be like the lines at the workout gyms after the New Year; stacked up.

Seatrout scoping

Next Tuesday is also the Texas Parks and Wildlife (TPWD) spotted seatrout scoping meeting at the NRC building on the TAMUCC campus from 6-8 p.m.. I expect that these meetings up and down the coast will vary in public opinion; the meetings up north in Port Arthur and Texas City will be people against a reduction in bag limits, and the local meeting will be a majority of folks in favor for the reduction. This is based on data from TPWD and firsthand observations from local guides. This info will be collected from the meetings and be presented by staff at the next TPWD Commission meeting in Austin January 24-25th and you can watch/listen online if you can't make it to Austin via link on their website.

ISAC January 16

What will not be held next week is the January meeting of ISAC, which is slated for the following Tuesday, January 16th. Island liaison Roger will be giving some updates on the Mobility plan and announcing a Commodores Park Master plan open house in February. We will be discussing an extension to the no-wake zone in Packery (again), FEMA/retaining walls, as well as other things critical to the future development of the Island. Good things to come in 2024. Hope you all had a safe set of holiday and the ACA robocall centers didn't drive you up the wall. Drop me a line at tarponchaser@mail.com and we'll see you next week On the Rocks.



Speckled Trout Painting by Jacob Augs

Tides of the Week

5 Jan	6 Jan	7 Jan	8 Jan	9 Jan	10 Jan	11 Jan	12 Jan
Fri ↗	Sat ↗	Sun ↗	Mon ↗	Tue ↗	Wed ↗	Thu ↗	Fri ↗
2:38PM 0.32m	2:48PM 0.4m	3:20PM 0.46m	3:59PM 0.52m	4:41PM 0.55m	5:25PM 0.55m	6:08PM 0.54m	6:43PM 0.5m
3:59AM -0.02m	4:29AM -0.1m	5:06AM -0.17m	5:48AM -0.24m	6:35AM -0.3m	7:24AM -0.34m	8:14AM -0.36m	9:05AM -0.35m
7:20AM 5:48PM	7:20AM 5:48PM	7:20AM 5:49PM	7:20AM 5:50PM	7:20AM 5:51PM	7:20AM 5:51PM	7:20AM 5:52PM	7:20AM 5:53PM
1:02PM 1:36AM	1:36PM 2:32AM	2:15PM 3:32AM	3:02PM 4:36AM	3:58PM 5:42AM	5:02PM 6:46AM	6:12PM 7:46AM	7:24PM 8:38AM



Backwater Adventures

By Joey Farah
Farah's Fishing Adventures

New Year Goals!

The New Year is a great time for more than toasts and spirits. It's a time to reflect on our past and make goals and promises to ourselves, for the better. In life AND IN FISHING, take a quiet moment and write down some of these and put them away in a special place like on the wall of the garage where your fishing poles hang! The last few years I have enjoyed stepping away from using bait in my fishing and teaching every person on my boat to be a better ANGLER. Our catches have improved in numbers and quality. We don't have to depend on the quality of our live bait that day to decide how our catching goes. We are producing natural bait activity in the dancing of our lures. Anticipating a gamefish hiding at the end of each well-placed cast. Covering lots of water looking into the beautiful clear waters of our blessed Laguna Madre and Coastal Bend. No mess, more time to fish, and an ease of mind and stress unlike baitfishing altogether. Take a step and make the decision to raise your level of skill and efficiently this fishing year, let's learn the dance of the fake bait!

Soft plastics

Deep probing soft plastics with heavier jig heads from the boat is in its peak January and February. Heavy light tackle heads are 1/4, 3/8,&1/2-oz in weight. These will help you keep the lure close to the bottom and in the face of slow moving cold gamefish. I like to use this along the ICW canal and deep channels and holes. I use my RAPTER SHALLOW WATER ANCHORS, or my GPS SPOT LOCK on the HUMMING BIRD TROLLING MOTOR to hold the boat in position, after I have found fish on the SIDE SCAN UNIT. WINTER TIME IS THE BEST TIME TO LEARN HOW TO USE YOUR ELETRONICS. I make casts to the edge of the shallow water and slowly scratch the bait along the bottom towards the deepest part of the channel, and cast deep and bring it towards the edge. The angle fish are holding in often dictates if they will strike your bait or not. Vary your presentation offering everything from a slow scratch on the bottom, a bumping the mud, or an erratic bounce. Their aggressiveness will change with the lunar bite and their body temperatures. Winter time colors that tend to work best are PURPLE REIGN, Pearl/CHARTRUSE, in the DOWN SOUTH LURES and my DOA 3" CAL SHADS in Texas Croaker, purple/chartreuse, and black/chartreuse. Start your gears rolling now so by the time spring hits us you will have had two months of fine tuning and will be ready for the explosion of spring fishing.

Baffin Bay

The deepest areas in the natural flats are 5-6' and 8'in Baffin Bay. So there are a lot of areas that require mid-depth fishing even when it's the coldest time of year. I do this from the boat and it's the funnest and easiest way to learn how to become confident in using lures. Hunting the mid-depth waters of the Laguna Madre and surrounding bays is a endless opportunity of clear water and gamefish rich sand pockets. I dance soft plastics with 1/16, 1/8&1/4-ounce jig heads in these areas. I mimic the action of wounded and confused baitfish. Soft movements



Young anglers love fishing with artificials! No waiting with a stare down the line, it's fast pace and lots of action, improve skills, and share lifetime memories.

Call me for my limited weekends to take them this year!

timed to the theme of the day. Cold and slow lunar periods, I use a slow and easy to attack bait imitation. When the fish are fired up and it's warm a faster more aggressive action.

Let's start your year off right with a fantastic adventure in bay fishing and learning the water and how to catch fish here. I'm easy to find around MARKER 37 MARINA AND ALWAYS EAGER TO MEET ANGLERS AND TALK FISHING.

If you really want to boost your fun this year rent a bait slip at MARKER 37 Marina! It makes it so easy to get the family on the water all year. Imagine if all you had to do was drive up and walk into your boat and take off!! The slips here are so nice, shaded and rain proof, safe with security cameras everywhere. Gas, bait, tackle, fish cleaning and more all in one spot. None of that even touches the gift of coming in from the boat and walking over to Snoopy's or the Ice-cream shop for good eats. That will make your spring and summer with the family one that everyone in the family will remember forever. They have some slips open just call them, it's worth the pennies. Follow all of our catches on FACEBOOK AT JOEY FARAHS BACKWATER FISHING, 361-442-8145



This Lady Angler landed this Trophy Trout this week with Farah along the flats of the Upper Lagoon. The Blood Shad DOA 5.5" Jerk Shad with a 1/8th ounce jig head has been the best after the sun comes up.



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Nature Notes

Sinkholes: A Window into the World Beneath Your Feet

By Heather Hill



An example of a sinkhole in Florida that opened up recently; showing trees slowly falling into the hole.”

Photo by Michael Hill

Florida is a state known for its thousands of sinkholes that dot the landscape. This is due to the state lying on a giant slab of limestone that was formed over millions of years by the accumulation of dead shellfish. The Texas bedrock is the same limestone, and therefore has the same kast topography that Florida does. “Karst topography” can be defined as bedrock made up of limestone or gypsum that is slowly eroded away by water to form underground caverns and sinkholes. Sinkholes are a fascinating window into the world below our feet. They provide access to the underground aquifer, as well as sustain life that is found nowhere else in the world!

These “karst windows” are formed over hundreds of years as the limestone is eroded away. Limestone itself is a very soft rock made primarily of calcium carbonate; the same compound found in the shells of various mollusks and clams. Since limestone is soft, it doesn’t take a very strong acid to dissolve it; which is why rainwater is so adept at eroding away the limestone to form underground caverns.

As these caverns grow larger, the ceiling grows weaker under the weight of the soil, plants, and other things on the surface. Eventually, the ceiling collapses in on itself, bringing everything on the surface down with it. Over the course of several days, the soil and grass that was first pulled into the sinkhole will slowly disappear down the hole, and into the aquifer. The trees follow, seeming to fall in slow motion toward the bottom of this new pit in the Earth’s surface. This process gradually continues as more soil sloughs off into the hole, making it bigger as time goes on. The water that pours in begins its underground journey through the aquifer before it eventually emerges as a spring, or is brought up by someone’s well. This water is adding to the groundwater, a

process known as “recharging”. Fish and other animals can live down here with no problem; and some are permanent residents. These include blind crayfish and salamanders that hunt using touch rather than sight. In the sinkhole bowl itself, you can find species of plants, salamanders, and invertebrates that thrive solely in that specific environment. Sinkholes are just one example of how connected all the plants and animals, including humans, are on this planet. If one part of this ecosystem is changed, it can have damaging repercussions down the line; whether it be destroying the delicacy of the karst window itself, or contaminating our drinking water. We have to be cognizant of our actions, otherwise we will also pay the price.



Heather Hill is a biology intern at the Gulf Coast Bird Observatory, a non-profit organization dedicated to saving the birds and their habitats along the entire Gulf Coast and beyond into their Central and South America wintering grounds.



Splish Splash By Leslie Wight



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Going Native

Native cont. from A1

invasive species officials put out a news release about the blue land crab *Cardisoma guanhum* warning folks from Georgia through the Carolinas to be on the lookout for this new invasive species. The concern appears to be that their large and deep burrows might damage salt marshes. *Cardisoma* is native throughout the Caribbean and Florida and occurs here. I’ve seen them on the Texas A&M Corpus Christi campus --- even under shrubs by a classroom building which is definitely not their usual habitat.

Although the Georgia DNR is raising the alarm now, a USGS map of the crab’s range in the U.S. shows considerable records of occurrence up though South Carolina and an occasional record in North Carolina (see <https://nas.er.usgs.gov/viewer/omap.aspx?SpeciesID=2774>). The USGS also shows our part of Texas and the Rio Grande Valley as being part of the native range. Notably, the USGS site lists this as a non-indigenous species, rather than the more pejorative term of “invasive species.”

It seems clear that this is not a problem of introduction by people, like planting Brazilian pepper because of its pretty red berries at Christmas time or releases of lionfish from the aquarium trade. Rather, it’s a range expansion that is most likely occurring because of a warming climate. Although since people contribute to

climate warming I suppose you could infer that people are indirectly causing the crabs expansion --- ugh, see how I dither early in the morning with only one cup of coffee! Anyway, like our mangroves (considered by some to be invasive here! See earlier articles) *Cardisoma* is marching northward but our salt marshes certainly don’t appear to be overrun by them.

So, if you see this pretty blue crab when you’re next in our salt marshes – don’t panic. It lives here too! It’s been here certainly for many decades, and likely for hundreds if not thousands of years, probably cycling in and out depending on incidents of very hard freezes much like mangroves have. This crab is substantially larger than the much more common (and native) fiddler crabs we have in marshes. And, similar to the fiddlers, males have one claw much larger than the other. They use these to “wave” to females to come join them in their burrows. But, they’re also not above giving you a nice pinch if you try to catch one. When I lived in Miami in the 1970’s their massive population would cause automobile accidents in seasons when females migrated to the open water to release their eggs. Crabs crossing roads by the many thousands were often crushed causing slick conditions! Anyway, as noted above, share the marsh with them and keep Going Native.



White-tailed Deer. Photo by Ed Proffitt

2024 Beach Parking Permits Are Now Available Now

2024 Beach Parking Permits are now available at participating vendors for \$12 each. Permits are required on designated beaches along the gulf shoreline and are valid from January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. Proceeds from the beach parking permits are used to maintain local gulf beaches and employ lifeguards. Permits are sold year-round at the following locations:

- H-E-B Stores (Aransas Pass, Corpus Christi, Portland & Rockport)
- Corpus Christi Visitor Info Center (located in the Water Street Market)
- Nueces County Padre Balli Park Headquarters Office
- Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi (University Services)
- Central Cashiering at Corpus Christi City Hall
- Circle K Stores (Padre Island & Flour Bluff)
- Murphy Oil USA (Alice, Aransas Pass, Corpus Christi, Portland & Rockport)
- Stripes (Padre Island, Flour Bluff and select stores in central Corpus Christi)
- 6901 South Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78412
- 14526 South Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78418
- 15233 South Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78418
- 9602 South Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78418
- 15302 South Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78418
- 5939 South Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX 78412

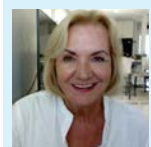
Please check the daily surf conditions by looking for flags posted at lifeguard stands and along the beaches.



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Business Briefs

By Mary Craft
mkay512@aol.com

Merida's Tappas & Cantina officially opened this week on Wednesday and will open daily at 11 am. They will start serving brunch on Saturdays and Sundays within a month. Check out the outdoor waterfront dining on a good weather day. There will be an outdoor waterfront bar built at a later date.

TGI Fridays and Johnny Carino's in town have closed.

The International Feline Showcase will be held at the Omni Hotel downtown this weekend Friday - Sunday 10 am - 5 pm. Admission is \$10 and \$5 for age 5 - 12.



The Barefoot Mardi Gras Parade will start at the Whitecap Beach at 11 am on Saturday, February 10th. The Kick-off Party will be on Friday, January 19th and the King & Queen's Charity Ball will be at the Wyndham on Saturday, February 3rd.



Mike Cotten's BBQ is worth a stop to or from San Antonio or just a drive to visit the restaurant. Mike's grandfather Joe opened the original Joe Cotten's BBQ in Robstown in 1947. Mike's restaurant is at 15013 Northwest Blvd. in Calallen and he continues his grandfather's tradition of great food and the servers still wear an apron and bow tie.



JFK Bridge is having the polyester polymer overlay work done and the inside lanes going both ways will be closed for three weeks. The closures will just be on the bridge's main span.

Guajillo's is now open seven days/week and the best part is they are bringing back Sunday Brunch 10 am - 3 pm.

The Donut Palace will reopen on Friday, January 12th.

The Commodores Bridge work should begin by the end of February and take about a year to complete. A two way detour road will go through the Whitecap NPI development from Commodores to Commodores on either side of the construction.

Laguna Little Miss Kickball registration has begun for girls 4 - 18. The cost is \$50 for ages 4 - 5 and \$80 for the older girls.

Registration is on the following Saturdays: January 6, 13, 27 and February 3 10 am - 2 pm at the Waldron Fields 3746 Waldron Road. This fun league has been going on over 50 years.

Flamingo Resort Bungalows should break ground this month on SPID just south of Encantada. The eight bungalows will be on stilts and you will be able to park vehicles, even RVs, underneath them. The residences will not have any shared walls. They can be purchased to live in part/full time or rented out as a STR. For more info call 867-1500.



The Whitecap NPI sales office is the place to go for information on their properties. They are looking forward to the construction of the first road which will be in Phase 1 near the corner of Aquarius and Commodores. The large lawn with thick Bermuda grass has some seating and yard games for you to enjoy while visiting the office.



Family Night Walk at Charlie's Pasture Nature Preserve in Port A will be on Friday, January 5th 6 - 7:30 pm. The walk allows you to learn about nocturnal animals and the night sky. Registration with Parks & Rec is required but it is free.

Island Timeline

The first Parrot Head Club on the Island was started in 2002 with Dana Matthews as the president. Jim Dugan provided the Buffett tunes at their first party.



Random Stuff

I have finally stopped coughing from this cold I have had for about two weeks. In 30 years living here, I have had two colds and this one that went through each of my three grandchildren then me was a doozy. Apparently, I am not alone.

Dredging This Week

Sand deposited in front of the Seawall will continue with a finishing target before Spring Break.



Photo: Evelyn Pless-Schuberth



Photos: Dale Rankin

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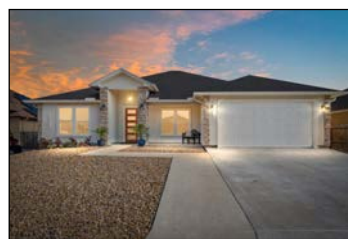
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13801 Captains Row - Exceptional custom home, 151' canal front at fingertip of gated st. Elevator, pool, 2 lifts, sunset over ICW **\$1,750,000**. Call **Pam Morgan** at 361-215-8116.



14911 Village Beach Dr. 2/2 gorgeous poolside townhome just a quick walk to the beach! 1041 sq. ft. & fully furnished. **\$430,000**. Call **Kim Mogford** at 361-434-8522.



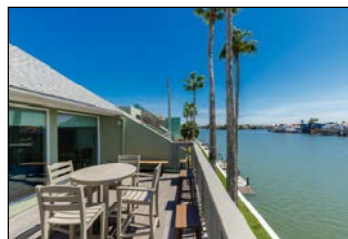
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15005 Windward Dr. #214 Fully furnished 2 bed, 1 bath, 955 sq ft Surfside Condo walking distance from the beach/seawall. **\$237,000** Call **Madeline Casey** at 361-443-0687.



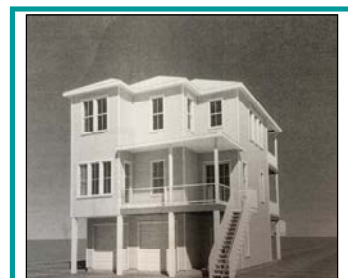
13965 Lanyard 4/3/2 2,502 sq.ft., stainless appliances, quartz & tile throughout plus lots of extras. **\$585,000**. Call **Randy Corpuz** 361-765-9914 or **Charlie Knoll** 361-443-2499.



Puente Vista #230 Fingertip location with views for days! Fully updated second floor 2 bedroom, 2 bath with 1,151 sq. ft. \$399,900. Call **Charlie** 361-443-2499



13969 Lanyard 4/3/2 2,540 sq.ft., stainless appliances, quartz & tile throughout plus lots of extras. **\$589,900** Call **Randy Corpuz** 361-765-9914 or **Charlie Knoll** 361-443-2499.



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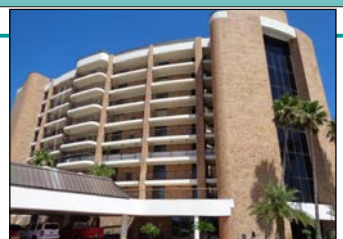
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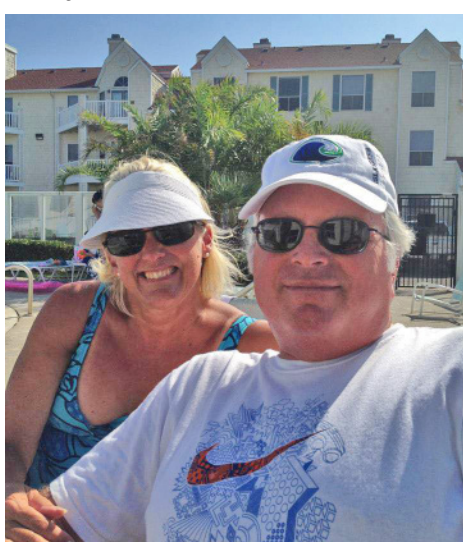


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Last Weeks Mystery Islanders!



Our Mystery person for last week's edition is Tom and Kathleen Cullinan. Tom writes our weekly rain reports when there is any rain to report.



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Evelyn Pless-Schuberth



Island motto



Port A Gratitude understands the Holidays.



Payten Landry took the Moon with her cheer team to Denver for Regionals in November and then to Nationals in Orlando in December. Stacy, Lauren, and Payten Landry at the Regionals in Greeley, CO.



Red-tailed Hawks have sharp eyesight that's eight times better than a human's. In flight, they can spy a mouse on the ground from 100 feet in the air. To keep their eyes clean, birds have a third eyelid called a nictitating membrane. Red-tailed Hawks can close this extra eyelid when perched to shield their eyes from wind, or for protection when diving to make a kill.

Photo By Riekie Roncinske

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Thoughts from Reverend Ken

By Rev. Dr. Ken

It seems a common thing these days to look into the future and see nothing but gloom and doom. Granted, the challenges in the world and our lives are considerable. There are also many new and unprecedented threats out there. War and violence never seem to wane. It can all lead to living life in fear.

I wonder sometimes if we have become a people based on fear. Yet, fear is destructive. It has been suggested that fear is destroying everything that’s good about us, our democracy, our diversity, our freedom.

We live in 24/7 news world. We have virtually unlimited source of news stories on all our media devices competing for our attention. Everything is breaking news. Truth has become collateral damage. We have more opportunity than ever to hear how bad things are and how worse they might get. Bad news sells.

All the suppliers of news and other content must find ways to get your attention and keep that attention. Fear attracts eyeballs and ears, and that translates to revenue. Some might want to blame the main-stream media. However, this phenomenon is true for media of all stripes and colors, biases and agendas. Red, blue, left, right, liberal, conservative. Candidates for public office know that fear brings votes.

It is important that we know what is going on in the world. We don’t want to minimize the suffering that people experience in our world, nation, and community. We should never let up on our efforts to prevent suffering in the future. It’s just that we need to keep all of this in perspective. We must step away from the abyss of fear.

A wise sage was asked to define fear. He said it is the nonacceptance of uncertainty. If we can accept uncertainty, it becomes adventure. A simple internet search for the opposite of fear will produce such words as calmness, confidence. However, in the Bible

the opposite of fear is faith. Faith understands uncertainty and is not threatened by it.

There is a story in the Bible about the parents of Jesus taking the baby Jesus to the Temple to do what parents did with their newborns in those days. There they met Simeon and Anna. Simeon and Anna could have been focused on all the bad things happening in that day. There was no shortage of bad things to commiserate about at the local watering hole. Disease, famine, violence, slavery, oppression, poverty, short life expectancy, etc. There was much to fear.

However, when they saw a glimpse of the baby Jesus, they saw hope, the fulfillment of promise, love incarnate. Without hope life becomes weary and fear leads astray. Our souls must be fed with the bread of anticipation. This gives us the strength to endure and the joy to celebrate. There must be horizons that beckon.

If Christmas teaches anything, it’s that there’s more potential in the birth of a baby named Jesus than in any threat – real or imagined. Love is what keeps this Christmas thing going beyond Christmas Day. Love is the reality that births faith. Faith is the courage to look away from fear to the adventure of life.

Each Sunday morning, a bunch of humans gather to worship in community at Island Presbyterian Church, giving thanks for grace, love, healing, and hope, working for peace, justice, and reconciliation. There is always room at the table for you! Join us on Sundays at 10 a.m., 14030 Fortune Bay Drive, or on our Facebook page.

Choose kindness, compassion, and love; do justice and make peace; welcome the stranger.

pastor@islandpresby.com

Candidates for Padre Isles Property Owners Association Board of Directors

Candidates for the Padre Isles Property Owners Association received eight Candidate application resumes for the 2024 Board election, to be held at the March 23, 2024 Annual Meeting. Three of seven Board of Directors seats are up for election. The seats are currently held by Drew Diggins, Ray Singleton and David Rossi, respectively.

The candidates for the upcoming 2024 Board elections are

Charles Cantu, Jr.

Chul Kim McGuire

Drew Diggins (Incumbent/President)

George Reed

Kevin Tansey

Michael Gdfula

Ray Singleton (Incumbent)

Thomas Gottemoller

The 2024 Board Candidates’ resumes may be viewed on the Community Website: www.padreislespoa.net.

As of Tuesday according to Gary Klepperich, Executive Director of the PIPOA, “The Board has not made its determination as to what third party election service they will be engaging. Once they have made that determination, I will know what suite of voting services will be available.”



Breakfast By Eric Canada

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Ten years ago this month in the Island Moon



The older Coastway Bait & Tackle building still stood where Packery Bar & Grill is today.



Islanders were on hand as Robert Earl Keen was in town.



Hope Love and Brian Schwartz dropped in on a proposal last Sunday on Mustang Beach. After a skydiving adventure they found friends waiting for them on the beach where Brian popped the question and Hope accepted.



The annual Christmas Tree Forest was sprouting up on SoPac Beach.



Schlitterbahn was under construction. Photo by Karen Marie



The Island had a meat market.

Sudoku

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

Going Easy On You...

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

Knuckle-Cracker

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

Mind-Numbing Frustration

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

Brain-Buster

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

Across

1. Most protected
7. Sonoma Valley neighbor
11. Salon job
14. Venezia's locale
15. "___ it!"
16. Unified
17. Super Bowl XXI anthem singer
19. Mormon gp.
20. Des Moines hrs.
21. Fly catcher
22. Get all hopped-up
24. Obsolete suffix
25. Super Bowl XXXVI anthem singer
27. Phone, slangily
29. Places to make scenes?
30. More than sprinkles
32. Make do
34. Mind
38. First name in scat
39. Super Bowl XXXII anthem singer
40. It's fit for a queen
41. Like old tires
42. Utopia
43. Alibi problems
44. "___ baby!"
46. Window ledge
47. Super Bowl XXVII anthem singer
52. Sumac of Peru
55. Get better again
56. Compete
57. Fix
58. Iron source
59. Super Bowl XXVIII anthem singer
63. Comic
64. Sierra Club concern: Abbr.
65. Innies and outies
66. Court call
67. "The ___ the limit!"
68. Fence pieces

Island Crossword

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
38					39							40		
41					42					43				
				44	45				46					
47	48	49						50	51				52	53
55							56						57	
58					59		60				61	62		
63					64				65					
66					67					68				

Down

1. From that day forward
2. Big blast
3. Super Bowl XXXIV anthem singer
4. Room extension
5. Imogene's partner
6. Its official language is Mandarin Chinese
7. Auras
8. Big bother
9. Revolving firework
10. Nut
11. Sportscast tidbits, collectively
12. Inappropriate
13. Peevish
18. Fizzy prefix
23. Hybrid fuel
25. Doubtfire's title
26. Vail alternative
28. Courting, perhaps
30. Soldier in gray
31. Like
32. Chest-maker's wood
33. Have obligations
35. Super Bowl XXIII anthem singer
36. "Not a creature was stirring" time
37. Toady's word
39. Very dark
43. ___ nibs: authority figure
45. Macbeth et al.
46. Yarn units
47. Boxer's warning
48. Hill dwelling
49. He made Scarlett blush
50. Racetracks
51. Monet medium
53. "Atlantic City" director Louis
54. Make ___ of: bungle
60. Christmas purchase
61. Have something
62. LIII doubled

Police Blotter December 26-January 1

JFK Causeway to SPID-Aquarius intersection

Suspicious Person

12100 block SPID Noon December 27
20800 block SPID Noon December 27
13500 block SPID 7 a.m. December 31

Traffic

75 Traffic Stops
13300 block SPID 11 p.m. December 30 Crash
13300 block SPID 8 p.m. December 30 Crash
13600 block SPID 10 a.m. December 30 Crash

SPID West to Laguna Madre

Crimes against Person

14300 block SPID 1 a.m. December 28 Assault
15300 Sabre 7 a.m. January 1 Shots fired

Crimes against Property

13700 block Suntan Ave. 11 a.m. December 30
Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle
13500 block Royal Firth Court 5 a.m. December
30 Burglary of a Motor Vehicle
14300 block Blue Fish St. 6 p.m. December 29
Burglary of a Motor Vehicle
13700 block Suntan Ave. 5 p.m. December 29
Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle
15400 block Fortuna Bay 7 a.m. December 31
Trespassing
15300 block Key Largo Court 9 a.m. December

30 Burglary of a Vehicle
15800 block Grenadine Dr. 7 a.m. December 30
Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle
15800 block Grenadine Dr. 10 p.m. December
29 Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle
13900 block Man O War Court 11 p.m.
December 29 Burglary of a Vehicle
1580 block Vincent 4 p.m. December 29 Theft
of Services
14800 block Compass St. Noon January 1
Criminal Mischief under \$100/Failure to Identify

Disturbances

Ambrosia St./Jackfish Ave. 9 p.m. January 31
Fireworks (two counts)
14300 block SPID 1 a.m. December 28 Public
Intoxication
Longboat Dr./Barataria Dr. 6 p.m. December 31
Fireworks
Gypsy St./Bounty Ave. 8 p.m. December 31
Fireworks
Cruiser St./Whitecap Blvd. December 31
Fireworks
14100 block Bounty 6 p.m. December 31
Fireworks
15800 block SPID 6 p.m. December 31
Fireworks
14100 block Atascadera 5 p.m. December 31
Fireworks
13800 block Sea Horse Midnight January 1
15400 block SPID Midnight January 1

Suspicious Person

16100 block Broomsedge 10 p.m. December 29
15300 block SPID 2 a.m. December 29
15800 block SPID 6 p.m. December 26

Traffic

97 Traffic Stops
Fortuna Bay Dr./Ports O Call Dr. 10 p.m.
December 30 Crash
15400 block Seamount Cay 9 p.m. December 29
Parking Violation

SPID East to Gulf of Mexico north to City Limits

Crimes against Person

15600 block Gulf Beach Rd. 5 p.m. December 30
Warrant/Assault
15800 block SPID 6 p.m. December 31 Fireworks
Suspicious Person
15800 block SPID 6 p.m. December 26
Newport Pass Rd./Gulf Beach Road 2 a.m.
December 27

Traffic

49 Traffic Stops

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Photo By Riekie Roncinske

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Crossword Solution

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I	T	A	L	I	A		I	D	I	D		O	N	E
N	E	I	L	D	I	A	M	O	N	D		L	D	S
C	S	T				W	E	B		W	I	G	O	U
E	T	H			M	A	R	I	A	H	C	A	R	E
			H	O	R	N			S	E	T	S		
R	A	I	N	S		C	O	P	E		O	B	E	Y
E	L	L	A		J	E	W	E	L		H	I	V	E
B	A	L	D		E	D	E	N		H	O	L	E	S
			A	T	T	A			S	I	L	L		
G	A	R	T	H	B	R	O	O	K	S		Y	M	A
R	E	H	E	A	L		V	I	E			J	A	M
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Trivia Question of the Week

Which is correct, Duct Tape or Duck Tape?

Some call it Arkansas Chrome but it is one of the burning questions of our times friends; Duck Tape or Duct Tape? We probe the depths of the human condition by plumbing the existential depths with questions like... “It’s used for Ducts not on Ducks right? So it must be Duct Tape.” Let Plato wrestle with his shadows on cave walls. We’re talking Duck/Duct Tape here. Well, if the answer was that simple the Moon Tape Information Department wouldn’t have to get involved. So here’s the sticky truth.

The tape was invented during the D-Day Invasion to waterproof ammunition cases going ashore with the troops. Johnson and Johnson’s Permacel Division manufactured it and because it was waterproof soldiers referred to it as Duck Tape. B it didn’t take long for the soldiers to figure out that there are many good uses on a battlefield for waterproof tape and before long it was being used on everything from jeeps to clothes. In those days Duck Tape was Army green as Duck Tape, like Camel Cigarettes, had gone to war.

Then after the war when a housing boom kicked in it was discovered to be great for joining heating and air conditioning Ducts. That’s when the color was changed to the silver we see today. To confuse things further the tape was made using cotton duck similar to what was used in cloth medical tapes. It didn’t take long before it was being called Duct Tape. So we’re going to say either name is appropriate, especially since most of us will likely ever actually use it on a Duck or a Duct.

Today it’s just a matter of copyright. You can find it written both ways on the tape package depending on which copyright the brand is under, but originally it was Duck Tape. Technically speaking – if you have to settle a bet – here’s the deal; if it is manufactured by Scotch Tape their brand is Duct Tape, if it is manufactured by Duck Brand tape then its Duck Brand Duct Tape, in which case it is both Duct Tape and Duck Tape. Got that? (Most likely a bet on this subject will end in either a fistfight or a draw so it should be avoided – unless of course you want to bet the over/under on how long it will take for the fight to break out).

Then again, various professions have their own nomenclature, such as...



Gaffer’s Tape - holds lighting equipment and cables in place on sets and has a dull finish so that it won’t reflect lights. From experience we can say it can also be used to silence mouthy producers or keep an anchor’s hairpiece from sliding down over his eyes due to a lubricating Flop Sweat.

Spike Tape: Comes in thin rolls used in theatres to stick on the stage so actors can find their mark or stagehands know where to set the scenery. Here too it can be used on mouthy producers or to keep the hairpiece of the aging Lothario playing the lead from sliding due to Flop Sweat.

Rock and Roll Tape: The name is self-explanatory, without it the show wouldn’t go on.

200 MPH TAPE: Pit crews in NASCAR know this one. It’s good for 200-plus mph and the term is even trademarked.

1,000 M.P.H. Tape: The U.S. Navy uses duct tape to repair radomes and has to be transparent so radar waves can penetrate it. We’ll take their word on the 1,000 mph part.

1,000 Mile tape: Norman Vaughn, arctic explorer for whom Antarctica’s Mount Vaughn was named, puts it on his dog sled runners to prevent ice build-up and says it’s good for 1,000 miles. Here too we’ll take his word for it.

Wisconsin Pewter on a Roll: Island Packer fans know what keep that cheese on their heads.

Oklahoma Chrome: Good for leaky boats and yappy dogs.

Plastic Surgeon on Roll: Ask Ms. South Texas.

So there you have it. Duck Tape by any other name...

Dale Rankin



By Ken Ames

Happy New Year from The Islander Post. It was about a year ago that three local Veterans came up with a plan to start an American Legion Post on the Island. A lot has happened since those first conversations and American Legion Post 229 went from being an idea, to being a plan, to becoming a reality. The Islander Post received its permanent charter in July 2023 and had already been fulfilling its mission to serve Veterans and their families, Active duty servicemembers, area youth and the community it calls home. Food drives, providing transportation and housing for local veterans in need, mentoring area Boy Scouts, attending patriotic school events, providing hot dogs for the PIN’s Easter egg hunt, beach clean ups, hunting and cooking wild pigs for the Island Blue Moon Luau and representing the Island at local Veteran’s ceremonies and funerals are many of the things we’ve done in 2023.

So, what’s ahead for 2024? The American Legion’s mission statement is: To enhance the well-being of America’s veterans, their families, our military, and our communities by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

The next year will see The Islander Post continue to grow, both in membership and in our ability to fulfill our mission. Hopefully in 2024 we will find the Post a building to call our home or a piece of property to build on. A permanent location will allow our Veterans Service Officers to set up offices to help active duty servicemembers, veterans, and their families. We’ll have an area to honor and remember our POW-MIA members with a “Missing Man” table. A kitchen so we can prepare community meals. Perhaps a pancake breakfast, a pig roast or a crawfish boil. A bar so we can raise a toast to fallen comrades. A formal area to hold our meetings and other functions. Storage areas where we can keep flags, banners, signs, and other items that we need for our events. But, most importantly, it will serve as a place that veterans can come to seek comradery, understanding and an

open ear when they need it. Veterans can have a hard time opening themselves up to people that haven’t been through the same experiences they have. Without colleagues to share with, many Veterans isolate and become introverted. I was that way and recently my daughter expressed how much I’ve changed since being involved with the Legion. We were at our Army-Navy Football watch party, and she was impressed that I was socializing and approaching people about the Legion. In the twenty years I’ve been in her life, she has never seen me that way before, I was always the quiet one in the back only interacting if someone approached me first. The only time I was outgoing was if I was spending time with my small circle of friends. The Legion helped me get back to being more “normal” which is something that I now want to help achieve for others.

Fundraiser January 20 at Marker 37 Marina

To that end, we are having our Salute to Service 2024 Concert and Live/Silent Auction event January 20th at the Marker 37 Marina. Join us for an evening of entertainment with local musician Ty Dietz and Texas country artist Jake Bush. We have silent auction items already being listed on our event site: salutetoservice2024.betterworld.org and bidding starts January 12th. That site also has links to sponsorship opportunities, Vip tickets to the event that includes dinner and general admission tickets that are for the concert and live auction only. Live auction items include an offshore fishing trip, bay fishing trips, a helicopter hog hunt, a custom-built knife by Michael O’machearley, a customized AR 15 Colt Rifle, a private dinner by Chef Gail Huesmann, a Big Green Egg, A Castaway’s shark fishing trip, a beautiful oil painting, a Glock 23 40 CAL pistol, and more.

Help us keep our mission alive by sponsoring, bidding, donating and attending our events. Contact us at: americanlegionpost0229@gmail.com or salutetoservice2024.betterworld.org.



Dolphins in the Ship Channel. Photo By Nil Heard

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By Ronnie Narmour
ronnienarmour@gmail.com

It's what I do...

Three Chords and the Truth

Scattered shots...



The Gaff held their 17th Annual Black Eye Pea Off last Monday.

It was a super fun weekend in Port A being that (you may have noticed) it was the New Year's Eve weekend. I got to see some great shows by **Justin** and **Niki** plus the super hot **Raul Ayala Band** at *Shorty's*, **Billy Snipes** plus the new Cajun group **Boudreaux and Pousson** at the Gaff's *Black Eye Pea Off* and **Ty Dietz** played a rare show over at *Texas Red's Riviera*. For my money, the show of the week had to be the Raul Ayala Band at *Shorty's*. That kid's energy is infectious. BTW they have been in the recording studio lately and you need to check out their new video, *Pat Mac*. It's super high energy and has a really cool vibe. I can't get enough of those guys.

DO NOT MISS LIST Coming this weekend...



The Raul Ayala Band played Shorty's last weekend.

Coming this weekend on Friday the 5th the smooth reggae band **Matty Lee** will play at *Shorty's*, **Brad Ethridge** is at the *Gaff* and in town the *House of Rock* has a super hot show with **Nick Par** and the **Selfless Lovers**, **Heavy Soul** AND the **Raul Ayala Band** all on one bill. I may have to run into town to catch that show! And as long as we're downtown, *Brewster Street* has a big show with nerd-rockers **The Spazmat-ics**. They're always good for a few laughs. On Saturday the 6th a new alt/grunge band, **Funk Rock Stereo** will debut *Shorty's*. I'm looking forward to that. Also on Saturday **Mark McKinney** will play the top shelf listening room: *Third Coast Theater* and **Coach Jim Dugan** will play the *Gaff*. Plus the *House of Rock* has what appears to be a heavy rock show with **Vomit Spots** and **Drastic Action**... actually I have no idea... I just wanted to type Vomit Spots. And coming on Wednesday the 10th, **Brad Ethridge** will host his weekly *Open Mic* at our favorite *Pirate Bar* the *Gaff* the long awaited return of the hybrid band, the **PA Rockers**, to *Bernie's Beach House*. The Rockers are part local, part Winter Texan and are crowd favorites every winter. It's an early, non-smoking show with a ton of classic rock that WILL fill the dance floor with manic dancers trying to recreate their high school Sock Hop in 1970... it's a bonafied hoot! On Thursday the **Selfie** residency show at *Shorty's* will have blues runner **Mike O'Neil** substituting for **Ray Summy** on guitar and vocals. That will be a dynamite show. Y'all be safe out there.

And, that's the truth



The PA Rockers will play Bernie's every Wednesday starting Jan 10.



Matty Lee will play Shorty's on Friday the 5th.



Mark McKinney will play the Third Coast Theater on Saturday the 6th.

LIVE MUSIC TONIGHT

Friday, January 5

Matty Lee @ Shorty's
Brad Ethridge @ Gaff
Vince King Elvis
Birthday Celebration
& Vegas Mafia Band @ PACT
Selfless Lovers,
Heavy Soul, Raul
Ayala @ House of
Rock
The Daze @ Pelican
Lounge
John Cortez @ Retro
Jam Council @
Rockits
Spazmatics @
Brewster Downtown
Carson Miller and the
Coastal Cowboys @
BUS
Matt Hole and the
Hot Rod Gang @
The Annex
Ruben Limas @
Blackbeard's

Saturday,

January 6

WINTER TEXAN
SOCK HOP@ Port A
Community Center
Funk Rock Stereo @
Shorty's
Jim Dugan @ Gaff
Mark McKinney @
Third Coast Theater
Vince King Elvis
Birthday Celebration
& Vegas Mafia Band
@ PACT
Vomit Spots, Drastic
Action @ House of
Rock
Parker Ryan @
Brewster Downtown
JonMikael Mrez @
Pelican Lounge
Ruben Limas @
Blackbeard's
Eric Graham @
Snoopy's
Joey St. Vincent @
Double Tree Hotel

Sunday,

January 7

Ty Dietz, Jim Dugan
@ Shorty's
Lady Kat & Matt Man
@ House of Rock
Jerry Ward @ Pelican
Lounge

Monday,

January 8

Art Barrera @ Pelican
Lounge

Tuesday,

January 9

Open Mic @ Salty

Dolphin
Ruben Limas @
Blackbeard's
Eric Graham @ The
Exchange

Wednesday,

January 10

Brad Ethridge Open
Mic @ Gaff
Cleartones @ VFW
PA Rockers @ Bernie's
Justin & Niki @
Pelican Lounge
Billy Snipes @ Doc's

Thursday,

January 11

Selfie @ Shorty's
Brad Brown @
Blackbeard's
Ruben Limas @ Island
Italian
Eric Graham @
Nueces Whiskey
Library

Friday,

January 12

Boudreaux & Pousson
@ Shorty's
Splendiferous @
Pelican Lounge
Neal McCoy @
Brewster Downtown
Eric Graham @ Double
Tree Hotel

Saturday,

January 13

Heavy Soul @ Shorty's
Diamond's Edge @
Pelican Lounge
Jam Council @
Executive Surf Club
Rock N Roll Flea
Market, Raul Ayala @
House of Rock
Carson Miller and the
Coastal Cowboys @
Legends
Eric Graham @ Tippy
Bean Port Lavaca

Sunday,

January 14

Ty Dietz, Jim Dugan @
Shorty's
Diamond's Edge @
Pelican Lounge

Monday,

January 15

Raul Ayala @ Pelican
Lounge

Tuesday,

January 16

Open Mic @ Salty
Dolphin



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SELFIE EVERY THURSDAY

MATTY LEE	JAN 5
FUNK ROCK STEREO	JAN 6
TY DIETZ, JIM DUGAN	JAN 7
BOUDREAUX & POUSSON	JAN 12
HEAVY SOUL	JAN 13

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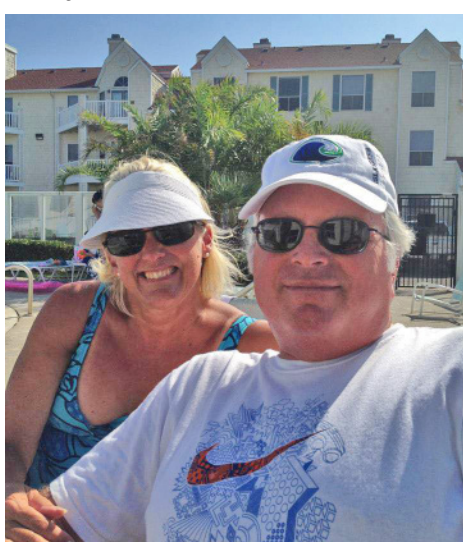
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Last Weeks Mystery Islanders!



Our Mystery person for last week's edition is Tom and Kathleen Cullinan. Tom writes our weekly rain reports when there is any rain to report.



Island currency.
Evelyn Pless-Schuberth



Island motto



Port A Gratitude understands the Holidays.



Payten Landry took the Moon with her cheer team to Denver for Regionals in November and then to Nationals in Orlando in December. Stacy, Lauren, and Payten Landry at the Regionals in Greeley, CO.



Red-tailed Hawks have sharp eyesight that's eight times better than a human's. In flight, they can spy a mouse on the ground from 100 feet in the air. To keep their eyes clean, birds have a third eyelid called a nictitating membrane. Red-tailed Hawks can close this extra eyelid when perched to shield their eyes from wind, or for protection when diving to make a kill.

Photo By Riekke Roncinske

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Thoughts from Reverend Ken

By Rev. Dr. Ken

It seems a common thing these days to look into the future and see nothing but gloom and doom. Granted, the challenges in the world and our lives are considerable. There are also many new and unprecedented threats out there. War and violence never seem to wane. It can all lead to living life in fear.

I wonder sometimes if we have become a people based on fear. Yet, fear is destructive. It has been suggested that fear is destroying everything that’s good about us, our democracy, our diversity, our freedom.

We live in 24/7 news world. We have virtually unlimited source of news stories on all our media devices competing for our attention. Everything is breaking news. Truth has become collateral damage. We have more opportunity than ever to hear how bad things are and how worse they might get. Bad news sells.

All the suppliers of news and other content must find ways to get your attention and keep that attention. Fear attracts eyeballs and ears, and that translates to revenue. Some might want to blame the main-stream media. However, this phenomenon is true for media of all stripes and colors, biases and agendas. Red, blue, left, right, liberal, conservative. Candidates for public office know that fear brings votes.

It is important that we know what is going on in the world. We don’t want to minimize the suffering that people experience in our world, nation, and community. We should never let up on our efforts to prevent suffering in the future. It’s just that we need to keep all of this in perspective. We must step away from the abyss of fear.

A wise sage was asked to define fear. He said it is the nonacceptance of uncertainty. If we can accept uncertainty, it becomes adventure. A simple internet search for the opposite of fear will produce such words as calmness, confidence. However, in the Bible

the opposite of fear is faith. Faith understands uncertainty and is not threatened by it.

There is a story in the Bible about the parents of Jesus taking the baby Jesus to the Temple to do what parents did with their newborns in those days. There they met Simeon and Anna. Simeon and Anna could have been focused on all the bad things happening in that day. There was no shortage of bad things to commiserate about at the local watering hole. Disease, famine, violence, slavery, oppression, poverty, short life expectancy, etc. There was much to fear.

However, when they saw a glimpse of the baby Jesus, they saw hope, the fulfillment of promise, love incarnate. Without hope life becomes weary and fear leads astray. Our souls must be fed with the bread of anticipation. This gives us the strength to endure and the joy to celebrate. There must be horizons that beckon.

If Christmas teaches anything, it’s that there’s more potential in the birth of a baby named Jesus than in any threat – real or imagined. Love is what keeps this Christmas thing going beyond Christmas Day. Love is the reality that births faith. Faith is the courage to look away from fear to the adventure of life.

Each Sunday morning, a bunch of humans gather to worship in community at Island Presbyterian Church, giving thanks for grace, love, healing, and hope, working for peace, justice, and reconciliation. There is always room at the table for you! Join us on Sundays at 10 a.m., 14030 Fortune Bay Drive, or on our Facebook page.

Choose kindness, compassion, and love; do justice and make peace; welcome the stranger.

pastor@islandpresby.com

Candidates for Padre Isles Property Owners Association Board of Directors

Candidates for the Padre Isles Property Owners Association received eight Candidate application resumes for the 2024 Board election, to be held at the March 23, 2024 Annual Meeting. Three of seven Board of Directors seats are up for election. The seats are currently held by Drew Diggins, Ray Singleton and David Rossi, respectively.

The candidates for the upcoming 2024 Board elections are

Charles Cantu, Jr.

Chul Kim McGuire

Drew Diggins (Incumbent/President)

George Reed

Kevin Tansey

Michael Gdfula

Ray Singleton (Incumbent)

Thomas Gottemoller

The 2024 Board Candidates’ resumes may be viewed on the Community Website: www.padreislespoa.net.

As of Tuesday according to Gary Klepperich, Executive Director of the PIPOA, “The Board has not made its determination as to what third party election service they will be engaging. Once they have made that determination, I will know what suite of voting services will be available.”



Breakfast By Eric Canada

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Ten years ago this month in the Island Moon



The older Coastway Bait & Tackle building still stood where Packery Bar & Grill is today.



Islanders were on hand as Robert Earl Keen was in town.



Hope Love and Brian Schwartz dropped in on a proposal last Sunday on Mustang Beach. After a skydiving adventure they found friends waiting for them on the beach where Brian popped the question and Hope accepted.



The annual Christmas Tree Forest was sprouting up on SoPac Beach.



Schlitterbahn was under construction. Photo by Karen Marie



The Island had a meat market.

Sudoku

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

Going Easy On You...

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

Knuckle-Cracker

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

Mind-Numbing Frustration

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

Brain-Buster

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

Across

1. Most protected
7. Sonoma Valley neighbor
11. Salon job
14. Venezia's locale
15. "___ it!"
16. Unified
17. Super Bowl XXI anthem singer
19. Mormon gp.
20. Des Moines hrs.
21. Fly catcher
22. Get all hopped-up
24. Obsolete suffix
25. Super Bowl XXXVI anthem singer
27. Phone, slangily
29. Places to make scenes?
30. More than sprinkles
32. Make do
34. Mind
38. First name in scat
39. Super Bowl XXXII anthem singer
40. It's fit for a queen
41. Like old tires
42. Utopia
43. Alibi problems
44. "___ baby!"
46. Window ledge
47. Super Bowl XXVII anthem singer
52. Sumac of Peru
55. Get better again
56. Compete
57. Fix
58. Iron source
59. Super Bowl XXVIII anthem singer
63. Comic
64. Sierra Club concern: Abbr.
65. Innies and outies
66. Court call
67. "The ___ the limit!"
68. Fence pieces

Island Crossword

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
38						39						40		
41						42					43			
						44	45				46			
47	48	49							50	51			52	53
55								56					57	
58						59		60				61	62	
63						64					65			
66						67						68		

Down

1. From that day forward
2. Big blast
3. Super Bowl XXXIV anthem singer
4. Room extension
5. Imogene's partner
6. Its official language is Mandarin Chinese
7. Auras
8. Big bother
9. Revolving firework
10. Nut
11. Sportscast tidbits, collectively
12. Inappropriate
13. Peevish
18. Fizzy prefix
23. Hybrid fuel
25. Doubtfire's title
26. Vail alternative
28. Courting, perhaps
30. Soldier in gray
31. Like
32. Chest-maker's wood
33. Have obligations
35. Super Bowl XXIII anthem singer
36. "Not a creature was stirring" time
37. Toady's word
39. Very dark
43. ___ nibs: authority figure
45. Macbeth et al.
46. Yarn units
47. Boxer's warning
48. Hill dwelling
49. He made Scarlett blush
50. Racetracks
51. Monet medium
53. "Atlantic City" director Louis
54. Make ___ of: bungle
60. Christmas purchase
61. Have something
62. LIII doubled

Police Blotter December 26-January 1

JFK Causeway to SPID-Aquarius intersection

Suspicious Person

12100 block SPID Noon December 27

20800 block SPID Noon December 27

13500 block SPID 7 a.m. December 31

Traffic

75 Traffic Stops

13300 block SPID 11 p.m. December 30 Crash

13300 block SPID 8 p.m. December 30 Crash

13600 block SPID 10 a.m. December 30 Crash

SPID West to Laguna Madre

Crimes against Person

14300 block SPID 1 a.m. December 28 Assault

15300 Sabre 7 a.m. January 1 Shots fired

Crimes against Property

13700 block Suntan Ave. 11 a.m. December 30

Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle

13500 block Royal Firth Court 5 a.m. December

30 Burglary of a Motor Vehicle

14300 block Blue Fish St. 6 p.m. December 29

Burglary of a Motor Vehicle

13700 block Suntan Ave. 5 p.m. December 29

Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle

15400 block Fortuna Bay 7 a.m. December 31

Trespassing

15300 block Key Largo Court 9 a.m. December

30 Burglary of a Vehicle

15800 block Grenadine Dr. 7 a.m. December 30

Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle

15800 block Grenadine Dr. 10 p.m. December

29 Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle

13900 block Man O War Court 11 p.m. Decem-

ber 29 Burglary of a Vehicle

1580 block Vincent 4 p.m. December 29 Theft

of Services

14800 block Compass St. Noon January 1 Crim-

inal Mischief under \$100/Failure to Identify

Disturbances

Ambrosia St./Jackfish Ave. 9 p.m. January 31

Fireworks (two counts)

14300 block SPID 1 a.m. December 28 Public

Intoxication

Longboat Dr./Barataria Dr. 6 p.m. December 31

Fireworks

Gypsy St./Bounty Ave. 8 p.m. December 31

Fireworks

Cruiser St./Whitecap Blvd. December 31 Fire-

works

14100 block Bounty 6 p.m. December 31 Fire-

works

15800 block SPID 6 p.m. December 31 Fire-

works

14100 block Atascadera 5 p.m. December 31

Fireworks

13800 block Sea Horse Midnight January 1

15400 block SPID Midnight January 1

Suspicious Person

16100 block Broomsedge 10 p.m. December 29

15300 block SPID 2 a.m. December 29

15800 block SPID 6 p.m. December 26

Traffic

97 Traffic Stops

Fortuna Bay Dr./Ports O Call Dr. 10 p.m. Decem-

ber 30 Crash

15400 block Seamount Cay 9 p.m. December 29

Parking Violation

SPID East to Gulf of Mexico north to City Limits

Crimes against Person

15600 block Gulf Beach Rd. 5 p.m. December 30

Warrant/Assault

15800 block SPID 6 p.m. December 31 Fireworks

Suspicious Person

15800 block SPID 6 p.m. December 26

Newport Pass Rd./Gulf Beach Road 2 a.m. De-

cember 27

Traffic

49 Traffic Stops

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Photo By Riekie Roncinske

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			H	O	R	N			S	E	T	S		
R	A	I	N	S		C	O	P	E		O	B	E	Y
E	L	L	A		J	E	W	E	L		H	I	V	E
B	A	L	D		E	D	E	N		H	O	L	E	S
			A	T	T	A			S	I	L	L		
G	A	R	T	H	B	R	O	O	K	S		Y	M	A
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Trivia Question of the Week

Which is correct, Duct Tape or Duck Tape?

Some call it Arkansas Chrome but it is one of the burning questions of our times friends; Duck Tape or Duct Tape? We probe the depths of the human condition by plumbing the existential depths with questions like... "It's used for Ducts not on Ducks right? So it must be Duct Tape." Let Plato wrestle with his shadows on cave walls. We're talking Duck/Duct Tape here. Well, if the answer was that simple the Moon Tape Information Department wouldn't have to get involved. So here's the sticky truth.

The tape was invented during the D-Day Invasion to waterproof ammunition cases going ashore with the troops. Johnson and Johnson's Permacel Division manufactured it and because it was waterproof soldiers referred to it as Duck Tape. B it didn't take long for the soldiers to figure out that there are many good uses on a battlefield for waterproof tape and before long it was being used on everything from jeeps to clothes. In those days Duck Tape was Army green as Duck Tape, like Camel Cigarettes, had gone to war.

Then after the war when a housing boom kicked in it was discovered to be great for joining heating and air conditioning Ducts. That's when the color was changed to the silver we see today. To confuse things further the tape was made using cotton duck similar to what was used in cloth medical tapes. It didn't take long before it was being called Duct Tape. So we're going to say either name is appropriate, especially since most of us will likely ever actually use it on a Duck or a Duct.

Today it's just a matter of copyright. You can find it written both ways on the tape package depending on which copyright the brand is under, but originally it was Duck Tape. Technically speaking – if you have to settle a bet – here's the deal; if it is manufactured by Scotch Tape their brand is Duct Tape, if it is manufactured by Duck Brand tape then its Duck Brand Duct Tape, in which case it is both Duct Tape and Duck Tape. Got that? (Most likely a bet on this subject will end in either a fistfight or a draw so it should be avoided – unless of course you want to bet the over/under on how long it will take for the fight to break out).

Then again, various professions have their own nomenclature, such as...



Gaffer's Tape - holds lighting equipment and cables in place on sets and has a dull finish so that it won't reflect lights. From experience we can say it can also be used to silence mouthy producers or keep an anchor's hairpiece from sliding down over his eyes due to a lubricating Flop Sweat.

Spike Tape: Comes in thin rolls used in theatres to stick on the stage so actors can find their mark or stagehands know where to set the scenery. Here too it can be used on mouthy producers or to keep the hairpiece of the aging Lothario playing the lead from sliding due to Flop Sweat.

Rock and Roll Tape: The name is self-explanatory, without it the show wouldn't go on.

200 MPH TAPE: Pit crews in NASCAR know this one. It's good for 200-plus mph and the term is even trademarked.

1,000 M.P.H. Tape: The U.S. Navy uses duct tape to repair radomes and has to be transparent so radar waves can penetrate it. We'll take their word on the 1,000 mph part.

1,000 Mile tape: Norman Vaughn, arctic explorer for whom Antarctica's Mount Vaughn was named, puts it on his dog sled runners to prevent ice build-up and says it's good for 1,000 miles. Here too we'll take his word for it.

Wisconsin Pewter on a Roll: Island Packer fans know what keep that cheese on their heads.

Oklahoma Chrome: Good for leaky boats and yappy dogs.

Plastic Surgeon on Roll: Ask Ms. South Texas.

So there you have it. Duck Tape by any other name...

Dale Rankin



By Ken Ames

Happy New Year from The Islander Post. It was about a year ago that three local Veterans came up with a plan to start an American Legion Post on the Island. A lot has happened since those first conversations and American Legion Post 229 went from being an idea, to being a plan, to becoming a reality. The Islander Post received its permanent charter in July 2023 and had already been fulfilling its mission to serve Veterans and their families, Active duty servicemembers, area youth and the community it calls home. Food drives, providing transportation and housing for local veterans in need, mentoring area Boy Scouts, attending patriotic school events, providing hot dogs for the PIN's Easter egg hunt, beach clean ups, hunting and cooking wild pigs for the Island Blue Moon Luau and representing the Island at local Veteran's ceremonies and funerals are many of the things we've done in 2023.

So, what's ahead for 2024? The American Legion's mission statement is: To enhance the well-being of America's veterans, their families, our military, and our communities by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

The next year will see The Islander Post continue to grow, both in membership and in our ability to fulfill our mission. Hopefully in 2024 we will find the Post a building to call our home or a piece of property to build on. A permanent location will allow our Veterans Service Officers to set up offices to help active duty servicemembers, veterans, and their families. We'll have an area to honor and remember our POW-MIA members with a "Missing Man" table. A kitchen so we can prepare community meals. Perhaps a pancake breakfast, a pig roast or a crawfish boil. A bar so we can raise a toast to fallen comrades. A formal area to hold our meetings and other functions. Storage areas where we can keep flags, banners, signs, and other items that we need for our events. But, most importantly, it will serve as a place that veterans can come to seek comradery, understanding and an

open ear when they need it. Veterans can have a hard time opening themselves up to people that haven't been through the same experiences they have. Without colleagues to share with, many Veterans isolate and become introverted. I was that way and recently my daughter expressed how much I've changed since being involved with the Legion. We were at our Army-Navy Football watch party, and she was impressed that I was socializing and approaching people about the Legion. In the twenty years I've been in her life, she has never seen me that way before, I was always the quiet one in the back only interacting if someone approached me first. The only time I was outgoing was if I was spending time with my small circle of friends. The Legion helped me get back to being more "normal" which is something that I now want to help achieve for others.

Fundraiser January 20 at Marker 37 Marina

To that end, we are having our Salute to Service 2024 Concert and Live/Silent Auction event January 20th at the Marker 37 Marina. Join us for an evening of entertainment with local musician Ty Dietz and Texas country artist Jake Bush. We have silent auction items already being listed on our event site: salutetoservice2024.betterworld.org and bidding starts January 12th. That site also has links to sponsorship opportunities, Vip tickets to the event that includes dinner and general admission tickets that are for the concert and live auction only. Live auction items include an offshore fishing trip, bay fishing trips, a helicopter hog hunt, a custom-built knife by Michael O'machearley, a customized AR 15 Colt Rifle, a private dinner by Chef Gail Huesmann, a Big Green Egg, A Castaway's shark fishing trip, a beautiful oil painting, a Glock 23 40 CAL pistol, and more.

Help us keep our mission alive by sponsoring, bidding, donating and attending our events. Contact us at: americanlegionpost0229@gmail.com or salutetoservice2024.betterworld.org.



Dolphins in the Ship Channel. Photo By Nil Heard

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By Ronnie Narmour
ronnienarmour@gmail.com

It's what I do...

Three Chords and the Truth

Scattered shots...



The Gaff held their 17th Annual Black Eye Pea Off last Monday.

It was a super fun weekend in Port A being that (you may have noticed) it was the New Year's Eve weekend. I got to see some great shows by **Justin** and **Niki** plus the super hot **Raul Ayala Band** at *Shorty's*, **Billy Snipes** plus the new Cajun group **Boudreaux and Pousson** at the Gaff's *Black Eye Pea Off* and **Ty Dietz** played a rare show over at *Texas Red's Riviera*. For my money, the show of the week had to be the Raul Ayala Band at *Shorty's*. That kid's energy is infectious. BTW they have been in the recording studio lately and you need to check out their new video, *Pat Mac*. It's super high energy and has a really cool vibe. I can't get enough of those guys.

DO NOT MISS LIST Coming this weekend...



The Raul Ayala Band played Shorty's last weekend.

Coming this weekend on Friday the 5th the smooth reggae band **Matty Lee** will play at *Shorty's*, **Brad Ethridge** is at the *Gaff* and in town the *House of Rock* has a super hot show with **Nick Par** and the **Selfless Lovers**, **Heavy Soul** AND the **Raul Ayala Band** all on one bill. I may have to run into town to catch that show! And as long as we're downtown, *Brewster Street* has a big show with nerd-rockers **The Spazmat-ics**. They're always good for a few laughs. On Saturday the 6th a new alt/grunge band, **Funk Rock Stereo** will debut *Shorty's*. I'm looking forward to that. Also on Saturday **Mark McKinney** will play the top shelf listening room: *Third Coast Theater* and **Coach Jim Dugan** will play the *Gaff*. Plus the *House of Rock* has what appears to be a heavy rock show with **Vomit Spots** and **Drastic Action**... actually I have no idea... I just wanted to type Vomit Spots. And coming on Wednesday the 10th, **Brad Ethridge** will host his weekly *Open Mic* at our favorite *Pirate Bar* the *Gaff* the long awaited return of the hybrid band, the **PA Rockers**, to *Bernie's Beach House*. The Rockers are part local, part Winter Texan and are crowd favorites every winter. It's an early, non-smoking show with a ton of classic rock that WILL fill the dance floor with manic dancers trying to recreate their high school Sock Hop in 1970... it's a bonafied hoot! On Thursday the **Selfie** residency show at *Shorty's* will have blues runner **Mike O'Neil** substituting for **Ray Summy** on guitar and vocals. That will be a dynamite show. Y'all be safe out there.

And, that's the truth



The PA Rockers will play Bernie's every Wednesday starting Jan 10.



Matty Lee will play Shorty's on Friday the 5th.



Mark McKinney will play the Third Coast Theater on Saturday the 6th.

LIVE MUSIC TONIGHT

Friday, January 5

Matty Lee @ Shorty's
Brad Ethridge @ Gaff
Vince King Elvis
Birthday Celebration
& Vegas Mafia Band @ PACT
Selfless Lovers,
Heavy Soul, Raul
Ayala @ House of
Rock
The Daze @ Pelican
Lounge
John Cortez @ Retro
Jam Council @
Rockits
Spazmatics @
Brewster Downtown
Carson Miller and the
Coastal Cowboys @
BUS
Matt Hole and the
Hot Rod Gang @
The Annex
Ruben Limas @
Blackbeard's

Saturday,

January 6

WINTER TEXAN
SOCK HOP@ Port A
Community Center
Funk Rock Stereo @
Shorty's
Jim Dugan @ Gaff
Mark McKinney @
Third Coast Theater
Vince King Elvis
Birthday Celebration
& Vegas Mafia Band
@ PACT
Vomit Spots, Drastic
Action @ House of
Rock
Parker Ryan @
Brewster Downtown
JonMikael Mrez @
Pelican Lounge
Ruben Limas @
Blackbeard's
Eric Graham @
Snoopy's
Joey St. Vincent @
Double Tree Hotel

Sunday,

January 7

Ty Dietz, Jim Dugan
@ Shorty's
Lady Kat & Matt Man
@ House of Rock
Jerry Ward @ Pelican
Lounge

Monday,

January 8

Art Barrera @ Pelican
Lounge

Tuesday,

January 9

Open Mic @ Salty

Dolphin

Ruben Limas @

Blackbeard's

Eric Graham @ The

Exchange

Wednesday,

January 10

Brad Ethridge Open

Mic @ Gaff

Cleartones @ VFW

PA Rockers @ Bernie's

Justin & Niki @

Pelican Lounge

Billy Snipes @ Doc's

Thursday,

January 11

Selfie @ Shorty's

Brad Brown @

Blackbeard's

Ruben Limas @ Island

Italian

Eric Graham @

Nueces Whiskey

Library

Friday,

January 12

Boudreaux & Pousson

@ Shorty's

Splendiferous @

Pelican Lounge

Neal McCoy @

Brewster Downtown

Eric Graham @ Double

Tree Hotel

Saturday,

January 13

Heavy Soul @ Shorty's

Diamond's Edge @

Pelican Lounge

Jam Council @

Executive Surf Club

Rock N Roll Flea

Market, Raul Ayala @

House of Rock

Carson Miller and the

Coastal Cowboys @

Legends

Eric Graham @ Tippy

Bean Port Lavaca

Sunday,

January 14

Ty Dietz, Jim Dugan @

Shorty's

Diamond's Edge @

Pelican Lounge

Monday,

January 15

Raul Ayala @ Pelican

Lounge

Tuesday,

January 16

Open Mic @ Salty

Dolphin



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TY DIETZ, JIM DUGAN	JAN 7
BOUDREAUX & POUSSON	JAN 12
HEAVY SOUL	JAN 13

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