

Issue 974

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The

Island Moon

The voice of The Island since 1996

December 15, 2022

Weekly

FREE

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Evelyn Pless-Schuberth



La Posada has come and gone and was the best so far, the political season came to a merciful end on Tuesday with the final runoff in city elections so things are going to calm down Around The Island as we slide into the new year.

Fungus among us...

We are also in the flu season here Around The Island – how’s that for a transition – and this year’s bug is a booger. All Around The Island last weekend as we gathered for events a good many of us ended up couchbound for a couple of days. Be careful out there and stay away from Close Talkers.

Island causeway

The push for a second causeway to The Island is catching some traction of late as State Representative Todd Hunter has jumped into the process and the goal now is to have something to take to Austin in the Legislative session that starts in January. We begin a multi-part series in this issue to explore and hopefully explain the process going forward. What looked like a pipedream a few months ago is starting to look like a possibility. Hunter mentioned this week that plans are afoot for much-needed lighting along the State Highway 361 corridor between Packery Channel and Port Aransas. Anyone who has driven the Island Landing Strip after dark knows it is a white-knuckle trip.

JKF Bridge

The opening this week of Snoopy’s Oyster Bar drove home the point that while there are now seven businesses operating Under The Bridge there is no signage to tell people entering The Island those businesses are there. The Buc-ees in Temple gets a state sign and the San Marcos Snake Farm gets a sign but Doc’s and Snoopy’s get a mud flat. If anyone has a connection in the halls of power can you please make a call for help? And while we are on the subject some traffic signs would be a big safety improvement before a driver heads the wrong way up the JFK Bridge or south in the northbound lane of SPID. Maybe we can do it before there is a crash...but that might just be crazy talk.

Mud Bridge

Just how precious our connection to the land OTB was driven home once again this week when the Mud Bridge leading into Flouir Bluff was shut down due to erosion. The Island is not the only part of our community with a tenuous grasp on access. We need more roads folks!

Riley P Dog Park

There is a new Board of Directors at the Riley P. Dog Park. They are Joe Minervini, Debbie Fitch, Jan Park-Rankin, Jed Blaich, Joe Brown, Joey Thompson, Nick Garcia, Suzan Brown and Tim Fitch. The appointment of a new board and efforts to jump start and finish the project were headed by Joe Minervini. The new members are determined to gain the needed funds to finish out the improvements including the driveway and parking areas. The approval of the purchase of a commercial mower was approved

Around cont. on A3

Dust Busters!

Crews at the Whitecap Padre Island site began spreading ground cover on the sand along Dasmarias Drive this week to prevent sand from blowing into adjacent houses. Photo: Augs



A New Causeway to Padre Island

What is the Process and how long will it take?

By Dale Rankin

Part 1

On July 4, 1927 the wooden Don Patricio Causeway opened. It was crude by today's standards and the three-dollar trip through the wooden rails that served as lanes burned up the sidewalls of tires on Model-A Fords after a single trek across and back. Then just five years later in 1933 Island pioneer Louis Rawalt describes in memoirs how he was the last person to cross the Don Patricio as he poled his own Model-A across in the driving rain and blasting wind and pitch darkness on September 5, 1933 as a massive hur-

Causeway cont. on A4



*On June 17, 1950 cars lined up for the noon opening of the new Padre Island Causeway
Photo courtesy of Caller Times*

La Posada 2022

The 2022 version of the La Posada Lighted Boat Parade collected 8500 toys for the Marine Reserve Toys for Tots program including twenty-four bicycles overflowing the two panel trucks brought in the haul them away. Additionally a \$40,000 check was presented to the foundation.

In addition to the traditional elements this year’s Saturday night parade included a panel of judges



made up of kids from Seashore schools who collected toys and picked their own winner. The only glitch was a sailboat that ran around on a sandbar but alas, no sailors were injured and a good time was had by all.

In addition to the toys \$4500 was donated to the Corpus Christi Police Officers Christmas Angel Program which has been in operation for



forty-two years. The organization provides toys and meals for 130 families across the city who are identified as in need of help by beat officers throughout the year. They provide meals and toys at Christmas

We include the photos in this edition, congratulate the organizers, and look forward to next year.



Barge Removal to Begin this week

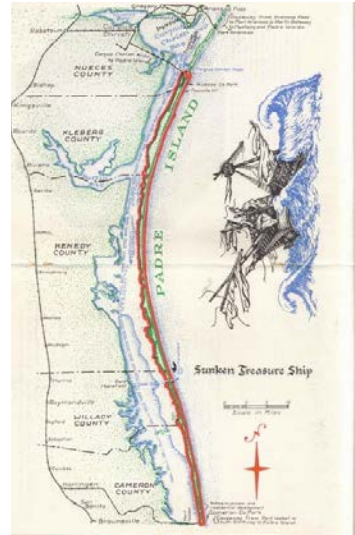
Workers from Peninsula Marine have been on the South Packery Jetty this week in preparation for the removal of the damaged work barge that has been lodged there for several months. A spokesman for the company said Wednesday divers will begin work at the site as soon as weather permits to repair the gash in the starboard side of the barge so that it can be floated and removed. The jetty rocks that were on the barge will also be removed. The removal process is expected to take eight to ten days, weather permitting, and the barge will be towed to a dock in Port Aransas for further repair.



Barge located on South Packery Jetty from 09-29-22

A little Island history

How Padre Became Two Islands



By Dale Rankin

We are often asked, primarily by newcomers to The Island, how there came to be North Padre Island and South Padre Island. The answer lies in a man-made project which marks the line of demarcation between North and South; Mansfield Channel.

Redfish Landing

In 1933 a hurricane hit just north of the mouth of the Rio Grande River and sent a twenty-five foot tidal surge into South Texas for more than twenty-four hours. Fifteen to twenty foot waves crashed into the shore at what was then called Redfish Landing (now Port Mansfield) which was

History cont. on A3



Business Briefs

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



Dunkin' Donuts is coming to the Island making it their second location in Corpus Christi the other being on the south side on Saratoga. It will be built at the Packery Pointe (Starbucks, Sonic strip) lot closest to the Best Western. The menu includes breakfast sandwiches, muffins, bagels, coffees and teas.



Snackin' Bacon

Coastal Teak Company is having a store-wide Christmas sale with 15% off on the 16th to the 18th

Port A Briefs

Restaurants in Port A that will be open on Christmas Day are Kody’s, Port A Beach Lodge and The Gaff.

Clay’s Hill Bird Walks by Clay Taylor are at Nature Preserve at Charlie’s Pasture North 8 am every Tuesday. It is a 2.5 mile loop that lasts about two hours. Bring your binoculars or some will be available for loan.

The Gaff in Port A will have the Minnow Races every Monday at 6 pm.

A Night with Elvis Presley & the Vegas Mafia Band will be performed at the Port Aransas Community Theater on Saturday, January 7th. Call 749-6036 for more details.

The Scarlet Lady Dolphin Adventures in Port A will have a two hour New Year’s Eve cruise to view the fireworks while you sip champagne for \$48. They have a full bar and offer 1 1/2 hour dolphin tours for \$38.



The Whitecap Development will be adding another crew in January to move the project along. The bulkheads are about a third of the way done. Sales for the lots will start around June at which time the exchange bridge will be opened up. The canal to go through to Cruiser will be opened up shortly after and all of our canals on the south side should see a big difference in the canal waters. The Commodores bridge that would affect the water in the north side neighborhood canals will probably be done around the end of 2024. The Whitecap home designs will be coastal contemporary with flat roofs and although compared to Cinnamon Shores will not look like it and really not similar. It will be a canal/golf cart community with parks, green areas and homes adjacent to current homes not short term rentals. Even the homes in the short term rental zone may not necessarily be rented but could be permanent homes. They are striving for a look unique to our Island.

Kevin Fowler will be performing at Brewster Street on Friday, December 16th 8 pm.

Snoopy's Pearl Oyster Bar is open but is not yet serving their full menu until the heaters are installed and the custom shields to block out the wind come in. Chef Richard said “It would not be fair to serve our cuisine to just have it get cold.” But most importantly they are serving raw oysters and I had their Chesapeake which were amazing. They are also serving some of their appetizers including the best calamari I’ve ever had with their original roux. The bar serves many signature drinks plus glycol cooled draft beer that gets it served at 31 degrees. You can also order from the Snoopy’s menu. Hours for now are daily noon - 9 pm and later on weekends.



The Padre Island Art Gallery will host their Sip & Shop event on Friday, December 16th 5 - 8 pm. There will be Christmas cocktails, heavy hors d’oeuvres and artist demonstrations. There will be a special performance by the Aloha Luaus at 6:30 pm.

La Posada Foundation donated \$40,000 to the Toys for Tots program. This tells a lot about the generosity of us Islanders.

The Seashore Learning Center Winter Tea Singing Concert will be Friday, December 16th. The 3rd and 4th graders start at 8:30 am and kinder - 2nd at 11 am at the gym. Everyone is welcome to enjoy the singing and art auction of works by the students and ornaments for sale.

Coldwell Banker Island Escapes has long term rentals available. See their full page ad in this week's Moon for details or their website.

Grace Church on the Island will have Candlelight Christmas Eve service at 6 pm. Their weekly worship is Sundays at 10:30 am and Tuesdays 6 pm. They are located at the strip center closest to the bridge.

Costa Sur Brunch will be served on Sunday, December 18th 11 am - 4 pm.

Padre Island Holiday Art & Farmers Market will be held on Thursday, December 15th 4 - 8 pm at the Briscoe Pavilion. There will be vendors with baked goods, garden art, jewelry, plants, home decor, arts & crafts and food trucks.

Strategyst LLC, an international luxury residential, second home, and resort marketing and sales organization was chosen for the Whitecap Development. The company has marketed and sold over \$11 Billion of luxury real estate in North America and the Caribbean including branded properties with The Ritz-Carlton, Orient-Express, Marriott, and Starwood.

Padre Island Axe Hats is an Islander owned mobile axe throwing trailer that will soon be operating. It can be brought to your business, public or private event. Call 817—271-1588 for more info.

Scuttlebutts’s holiday hours have changed to opening at 3 pm instead of 11 am Monday - Thursday.

Urban Air Adventure Park that took over the spot Get Air Trampoline was will be opening in the spring of 2023. Earlier I reported they were opening this month but that has changed.

Ace Hardware Find of the Week is the Beer Freeze Cooling Cup which is a cup with a cooling gel that you put in your freezer. It claims it keeps your drink cold for hours and I can vouch for 1 1/2 hours of beer that is as cold the last sip as the first. Great gift idea for



Random Stuff

F.B. Purity (Fluff Busting because cannot use trademark Facebook in name) saved me from abandoning Facebook. I was getting more and more "suggested for you posts" until it got ridiculous. Those posts and other annoying clutter are gone since I downloaded the F.B. Purity extension. I was apprehensive about downloading it but delved more into it and read great reviews of it on CNET, Macworld and PCWorld.



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About the Island Moon

The Island Moon is published every Thursday, Dale Rankin, Editor / Publisher.

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Letters to the Editor

I AM WHEEL. HEAR ME SQUEAK.



Editor:

I want to thank CCFD Chief Rocha for making another attempt to move the redundant fire protection services provided by EMD#2 into CCFD. It is the smart thing and the right thing to do for taxpayers. I hope I am wrong but my guess is that he will be turned down again. The examples of a government body (particularly those with taxing authority) disbanding itself would make hen's teeth seem abundant. The Commissioners that must approve his offer will have nothing to oversee and, while the firefighters will become City employees and receive valuable training (adding to the safety of citizens), the redundant EMD Chief and Assistant will be out of a job. If the County Judge and Commissioners get behind this--and maybe provide a bit of suggestive pressure--maybe the smart decision will actually happen.

Dan Tholen

Your recent piece about Mel's Place and his regular, Ira Attebury, reminded me of that fateful Battle of the Flowers Parade. Ira's opening fire on the parade's spectators created mayhem. I was the surgery officer of the day at Brooke Army Medical Center on that day when his victims started arriving in BAMC's ER (only a few blocks from the scene). We received 8-10 patients with gunshot wounds in the space of minutes. It was my responsibility to call a mass casualty situation and start triage until relieved by more senior surgeons. Then, as now, BAMC's surgeons responded to the emergency needs of the San Antonio community without skipping a beat.

Greg Bowman

Editor's note: A reporter, Gary Delaune, and a photographer Henry Valadez, were there to cover the parade that day and were pinned down by gunfire. It was ironic because Gary was also in the basement of the Dallas County jail when Lee Harvey Oswald was killed by Jack Ruby. Gary passed away earlier this year but was one of the first, if not the first, to report the shooting as, at least according to Gary, he got to the only payphone in the basement first. News had a way of following Gary around.

After the shooting the investigators were convinced that Mel, the owner of Mel's Lounge which is now Sam's Burger Joint, somehow had knowledge of what was about to happen that day and pestered him for years. You can take it from an old police reporter that if Mel knew anything we would have gotten it out of him, but he did not. To Mel, Attebury was just a customer who paid his tab.

History cont. from A1

named for giant redfish in Baffin Bay said to be over four feet long. The road to Redfish Bay from the land side was washed out and the tiny village was only accessible by water.

In 1933 the Civil Works Administration was formed to build public projects and in 1934 Congress appropriated \$7,000 for construction of a good road to the landlocked village. During the war years the Army Air Corps used the Laguna Madre and what is now North Padre Island for a bombing range for pilot trainees and for trainees at the gunnery school in Harlingen. Even in recent years beachcombers looking behind the dunes on North Padre have found the three-foot long wooden training bombs dropped from the airplanes. A 10-gauge shotgun shell detonated a powder-filled magazine in the nose of the wooden "bomb" to show the pilot where the bomb had hit.

It was said by cowboys on the Dunn Ranch at the time that when the cows heard the droning of overhead engines they would move away from the targets which was stretched on top of the ground and after the "bombs" fell would move back to the newly churned area to forage.

Port Mansfield

In the years right after the war the federal government condemned 1760 acres around Redfish Landing and the Navigation District paid the American Legion three dollars per acre for the land and renamed the village Port Mansfield in honor of State Senator Mansfield from Columbus, Texas who headed the commission that moved the necessary legislation through the U.S. Congress that extended the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway from Corpus Christi south to Port Isabel. A new harbor was built at Port Mansfield and completed in 1956. The next step was to build the channel from the Laguna to the Gulf and dredging began.

Contemporary reports said that the dredge ran its hoses straight through an old Spanish galleon, the Santa Maria de Yicar, that was one of the Spanish Treasure ships which wrecked on the Texas Coast in 1554. As the hoses did their work Spanish silver sparkled in the bright sunlight and work was stopped which workers left their posts on the dredged to become temporary treasure seekers. The first manmade cut through the island was completed in September, 1957, but it was not to last.



Shifting sands

The local engineers who built the jetties ignored the advice of the Army Corps of Engineers and built their south jetty with tetra pods which are shaped like childrens' jacks which were placed with three legs resting on the sand below and one leg sticking straight up with the massive jetty rocks placed atop the structure. The north jetty was built atop the remains the old Spanish ship with no other support structure.

When several storms hit the area later that year the engineers learned a valuable Biblical lesson about building on shifting sand and the jetties sank right out of sight and the channel was filled in. The Army Corps of Engineers re-dredged the channel which was finished in summer 1962 and lined on both sides with the granite boulders seen there today.

Today, the Port Mansfield Gulf Channel, also known as the East Cut, is the dividing line between the Padres – North and South.

And that's how Padre became two islands.



Wooden practice bombs and a Spanish Reale

Winter Tea at Seashore Schools

The annual Winter Tea will be held this year at Seashore Schools on Friday, December 16. All proceeds help to support our educational needs at Seashore.

It will take place at 8:30 a.m. for 3rd and 4th grade and at 11:00 for Kindergarten and 2nd Grade. There will be a concert by the kids as well as an art auction and ornaments for sale. These photos are from previous year's events.



Around cont. from A1

and the park has been mowed by Joe Brown. Joe is also completing weed eating the park area this week. The park is currently open on a daily basis while improvements continue to be made. Volunteers and funds are still needed so if you can help please email Joe Minervini at jminervini4@gmail.com or you may call him at 619-204-0391. New signs are currently being made to make it easier for people to find the park. It is located at 13445 Whitecap Blvd between the PI Yacht Club and the Water treatment plant.

For no particular reason...



Two Island legends Doc Blankenship (l) and Gene French have teamed up again at Frenchy's (photo Andre Larivy)

And for no particular reason we include this photo of two Island legends we came across in the Island Moon archives this week. That's Doc Blankenship on the left and Gene (Frenchy) French on the right way back in 2004. Both are now gone but neither is forgotten.

A little Ray Wylie Wisdom

Ray Wylie Hubbard is playing the Third Coast Theatre in Port Aransas for told sold out shows this weekend so we will leave you with some Ray Wylieisms here. Ray says there are two kinds of people in the world, the Day People and the Night People and it is the job of the Night People to get money from the Day People. And every day is a good day when you keep your expectations low and your appreciations high. That's all for now stay away from those Close Talkers everybody and say hello if you see us Around The Island.

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Causeway cont. from A4

ricane approached and destroyed the causeway behind him. The remains of the Don Patricio were found twenty miles south on King Ranch after the storm.

It was then on September 6, 1933 when talk began of the need for a second causeway to Padre Island.

Fast forward eighty-nine years, three months, and seven days to Monday, December 12, 2022. With work on the Island's sole means of ground transportation to and from Padre Island down to one lane in each direction while the JFK Bridge is under construction maintenance a group of local business people and elected officials, most of whom had just transversed the single lane leading to Padre Island, gathered in the latest attempt to bring a second roadway across the shallow waters of the Laguna Madre and over the marine traffic lane of the Intracoastal Waterway to Padre Island providing an alternative route for hurricane evacuation and commerce for the thirteen thousand souls who now call Padre Island and Port Aransas home.

One of those present was former Port Aransas Mayor Keith McMullen who has been an Island resident since 1980 and mentioned the Raise The Causeway effort spawned twenty years ago after Island residents drove their vehicles through barely passable water across the JFK Causeway which was only three feet above sea level in the face of approaching storms. A feasibility study for raising the causeway was begun in the early 1990s and then a particularly hairy hurricane season in the mid 1990's spawned Island business owners fearing for the future of Padre and Mustang Islands to fast track the project through the Texas Department of Transportation and a \$37 million construction contract was let after only five years of pushing and the raised section of the JFK Causeway we drive today was completed in September 2004. Those islands' future now faces the prospect of exploding commercial growth and the traffic that goes with it over the next decade and the group that met this week is looking to repeat the work completed in 2004 of providing safe passage across the Laguna Madre for the next generation and beyond. It is a daunting task and one that will most assuredly take more than five years, in fact the current plan for a second causeway barely begun, does not contemplate a second Island bridge until 2035. So can that timeline be shortened and if so what is the plan to get there?

A flyover or a tunnel?

The first and most common reactions to a plan for a second Island traffic passage come in two forms; a tunnel under the Laguna Madre or a flyover that takes off in Flour Bluff and lands on State Highway 361 somewhere north of Packery Channel. Both solutions immediately run into two common, and likely insurmountable obstacles.

Both approaches are addressed in a study completed by the Regional Parkway Mobility Corridor Study Planning & Environmental Linkage Study completed by the Corpus Christi Metropolitan Planning Organization and the City of Corpus Christi on April 12, 2017. The study was financed through the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, under the State Planning and Research Program and focuses on two sections of the planned Regional Parkway Mobility Corridor which will ultimately link the Crosstown Expressway to the extension of the Rodd Field Road and on to the crossing of the Laguna Madre. The estimated construction costs for the Regional Parkway when the study was completed in 2017 was \$800 million.

So what about a tunnel. The short answer is that studies done by TxDOT in recent years have concluded that the air and smoke evacuation systems, safety systems, and costs of boring tunnels makes it cost prohibitive and in recent years TxDOT has taken tunnels off the drawing board across the state. A meeting with TxDOT officials scheduled for the day after this article goes to press will address the possibility but the idea of a tunnel as the solution is a far-flung one at best.



The first way to cross the Laguna Madre by car

The second problem with a tunnel is related to the alternative of a flyover. It would have to cross privately-held land which raises the cost and stretches the timeline since imminent domain would almost certainly come into play through the resistance and reluctance to sell property by private owners. For any such project and those considerations alone would make a tunnel a near-possible solution and those same problems attach to a flyover.

The core problem

But even if those problems could be overcome they do not address the core problem which is overcrowding of traffic on the SPID corridor between the Crosstown Expressway and the Laguna Madre which is the prime directive behind the construction of the Regional Parkway. The SPID corridor is at near peak now and widening it is not an option – think of the overhead lanes through downtown Austin. Any sort of connection to Padre Island that is fed through the SPID corridor increases the traffic load there making a bad problem worse while not addressing the need for an outer loop around the south side of Corpus Christi where growth is the driving factor behind the need for a Regional Parkway in the first place. A flyover is simply the wrong road in the wrong place.

An overland route

So that leaves a causeway as the lone way forward. The study looked at fifteen possible routes referred to as Planned Environmental Linkages (PEL) for the simple reason that the first step in building a second route to the islands is an Environmental Impact Assessment without which the project cannot move forward.

According to the language in the final report:

Multiple alignment alternatives were established for the PEL on the basis of key parameters such as prioritization of existing public rights-of-way, previously disturbed areas, proximity to, intersecting roadways, existing drainage features, as well as on the basis of feedback from the planning team and targeted stakeholder interviews. In total, eight (8) alternatives were considered in Segment A, four (4) alternatives were considered in Segment B, and three (3) alternatives were considered for the future extension of Rodd Field Road. These fifteen alternatives, along with the No-Build alternative, were subject to the screening process.

The study narrowed the route of the island causeway to five.

Next week: The possible routes and the obstacles.



1996 Evacuation



The second way across. Photo Doc MacGregor

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Wreaths Across America

December 12, 2022

Recognition of the service and sacrifice of our veterans, and their families, is especially important during the traditional holiday season. The Wreaths Across America program is an annual tradition that serves to honor and remember men and women of the armed forces who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our country. Founded in 1992, the Wreaths Across America program was first initiated by a donation from the Harrington, Maine-based Worcester Wreath Company of 5,000 holiday wreaths to be placed on the headstones of our nation's fallen heroes at Arlington National Cemetery. Wreaths Across America has grown from a local, community-based outreach program to national nonprofit organization with a mission dedicated to remember, honor, and teach by celebrating the lives of fallen armed service men and women.

Today, Wreaths Across America has grown to include state and federal cemeteries across the country as well as 24 veteran's cemeteries located on foreign soil. The organization works with local partners and trucking companies to carry out its mission. During previous events trucking companies have helped deliver over 300 loads of wreaths to over 1,000 sites across the country.

In 2008, the annual tradition received an official designation from the United States Congress, which proclaimed that one Saturday each December be known as National Wreaths Across America Day. This important event is to be held on Saturday, December 17th. Wreaths Across America will take place in Corpus Christi at the Coastal Bend State Veterans Cemetery which is located at 9974 IH 37 Access Road Corpus Christi, TX 78410. In Port Aransas, a Wreaths Across America event will take place at the Royal Palm Cemetery. The address for the Royal Palm Cemetery is 2342 South 11th Street, Port Aransas, TX, 78373. Additionally, the Wreaths Across America event for Rockport will be at Veterans Memorial Park which is located at Veterans Memorial Drive, Rockport, TX 78382. All three of these events will begin at 11:00 am on Saturday, December 17th. It is important to remember and celebrate the lives of our fallen soldiers.

An important component of the Wreaths Across America program is to teach younger generations the value of our country's freedoms and the importance of honoring the sacrifices made by our men and women in uniform in the name of protecting those freedoms. As a way to fulfill this mission, Wreaths Across America's touches the lives of thousands of schools, scout, civic and religious groups across the country through fundraising for wreath sponsorships. In addition, Wreaths Across America offers many downloadable teaching materials.

There are several ways for those looking to get involved with Wreaths Across America during this year's event, including sponsoring a wreath or volunteering at local wreath-laying events across the Coastal Bend. In addition to its wreath-laying program, the organization also has other initiatives to pay homage to veterans throughout the year. To learn more visit <https://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/pages/17162/overview/?relatedId=0>.

If you have questions regarding any of the information mentioned in this week's article, please do not hesitate to call my Capitol or District Office. Please always feel free to contact my office if you have any questions or issues regarding a Texas state agency, or if you would like to contact my office regarding constituent services. As always, my offices are available at any time to assist with questions, concerns, or comments (Capitol Office, 512-463-0672; District Office, 361-949-4603).

- State Representative Todd Hunter, District 32

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

The Home for The Holidays concert by the Corpus Christi Symphony Orchestra was held at TAMUCC last Saturday.

Photo: Evelyn Pless-Schuberth

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Senior Moments



Senior Moments Special to The Island Moon

By Dotson Lewis

Things You Might Like to Know About Prohibition

Dotson's Note: Now, after almost 104 years after its inception, the following are some facts about America's nearly 14-year "noble experiment" in alcohol prohibition. Thanks to Dotson G. Lewis Sr., W.M. Day and Evan Andrews for the facts contained in this report and to Art Edger for the photos.

World War I Helped Turn The Nation In Favor Of Prohibition



Prohibition was all but sealed by the time the United States entered World War I in 1917, but the conflict served as one of the last nails in the coffin of legalized alcohol. Dry advocates argued that the barley used in brewing beer could be made into bread to feed American soldiers and war-ravaged Europeans, and they succeeded in winning wartime bans on strong drink. Anti-alcohol crusaders were often fueled by xenophobia, and the war allowed them to paint America's largely German brewing industry as a threat. "We have German enemies in this country, too," one temperance politician argued. "And the worst of all our German enemies, the most treacherous, the most menacing, are Pabst, Schlitz, Blatz and Miller."

It Wasn't Illegal To Drink Alcohol During Prohibition

The 18th Amendment only forbade the "manufacture, sale and transportation of intoxicating liquors"—not their consumption. By law, any wine, beer or spirits Americans had stashed away in January 1920 were theirs to keep and enjoy in the privacy of their homes. For most, this amounted to only a few bottles, but some affluent drinkers built cavernous wine cellars and even bought out whole liquor store inventories to ensure they had healthy stockpiles of legal hooch.

Some States Refused To Enforce Prohibition

Along with creating an army of federal agents, the 18th Amendment and the Volstead Act stipulated that individual states should enforce Prohibition within their own borders. Governors resented the added strain on their public coffers, however, and many neglected to appropriate any money toward policing the alcohol ban. Maryland never even enacted an enforcement code, and eventually earned a reputation as one of the most stubbornly anti-Prohibition states in the Union. New York followed suit and grew its measures in 1923, and other states repeated increasingly lackadaisical as the decade wore on. "National prohibition went into legal effect upward of six years ago," Maryland Senator William Cabell Bruce told Congress in the mid-1920s, "but it can be truly said that, except to a highly qualified extent, it has never gone into practical effect at all."

Drug Stores Continued Selling Alcohol As "Medicine"



Above, New York City police officer examines confiscated alcohol. The Volstead Act included a few interesting exceptions to the ban on distributing alcohol. Sacramental wine was still permitted for religious purposes (the number of questionable rabbis and priests soon skyrocketed), and drug stores were allowed to sell "medicinal whiskey" to treat everything from toothaches to the flu. With a physician's prescription, "patients" could legally buy a pint of hard liquor every ten

days. This pharmaceutical booze often came with seemingly laudable doctor's orders such as "Take three ounces every hour for stimulant until stimulated." Many speakeasies eventually operated under the guise of being pharmacies, and legitimate chains flourished. According to Prohibition historian Daniel Okrent, windfalls from legal alcohol sales helped the drug store chain Walgreens grow from around 20 locations to more than 500 during the 1920s.

Winemakers And Brewers Found Creative Ways To Stay Afloat

While many small distilleries and breweries continued to operate in secret during Prohibition, the rest had to either shut their doors or find new uses for their factories. Yuengling and Anheuser Busch both refitted their breweries to make ice cream, while Coors doubled down on the production of pottery and ceramics. Others produced "near beer"—legal brew that contained less than 0.5 percent alcohol. The lion's share of brewers kept the lights on by peddling malt syrup, a legally dubious extract that could be easily made into beer by adding water and yeast and allowing time for fermentation. Winemakers followed a similar route by selling chunks of grape concentrate called "wine bricks."

Thousands Died From Drinking Tainted Liquor



Enterprising bootleggers produced millions of gallons of "bathtub gin" and rotgut moonshine for sale. This illicit hooch had a famously foul taste, and those desperate enough to drink it also ran the risk of being stricken or even poisoned. The most deadly tinctures contained industrial alcohol originally made for use in fuels and medical supplies. The federal government had required companies to denature industrial alcohol to make it undrinkable as early as 1906, but during Prohibition it ordered them to add quinine, methyl alcohol and other toxic chemicals as a further deterrent. Coupled with the other low-quality products on offer from bootleggers, this tainted booze may have killed more than 10,000 people before the repeal of the 18th Amendment.

The Great Depression Helped Fuel Calls For A Repeal

By the late 1920s, Americans were spending more money than ever on black market booze. New York City boasted more than 30,000 speakeasies, and Detroit's alcohol trade was second only to the auto industry in its contribution to the economy. With the country bogged down by the Great Depression, anti-Prohibition activists argued that potential savings and tax revenue from alcohol were too precious to ignore. The public agreed. After Franklin D. Roosevelt called for a repeal during the 1932 presidential campaign, he won the election in a landslide. Prohibition was dead a year later, when a majority of states ratified the 21st Amendment repealing the 18th. In New Orleans, the decision was honored with 20 minutes of celebratory cannon fire. Roosevelt supposedly marked the occasion by downing a dirty martini.

Dotson's Other Note: Prohibition continues in some parts of the country even today. After the repeal of Prohibition, some states maintained a ban on alcohol within their own borders. Kansas and Oklahoma remained dry until 1948 and 1959, respectively, and Mississippi remained alcohol free until 1966—a full 33 years after the passage of the 21st Amendment. Today 33 states still allow localities to go dry. Comments are welcome to the Editor of The Island Moon or to me at Mobile: 530-748-8475 or at dlewis1@stx.rr.com. FOR YOUR INFORMATION: The weekly Veterans Round Table meetings are on Tuesdays 9-11AM. All veterans, their families and anyone interested in veterans' activities, are invited. The meeting location is at Del Mar College, Center for Economic Development, 3209 S. Staples. (Across from Ray High School). Also, the Veterans Radio Round Table is on the air on KEYS AM 1440 & 98.7 FM, 8 – 10 a.m., Saturdays. Please listen and call in or text. The listener/ text line is: 361-882-5397...It's your two hours, please let us hear from you.



Stuff I Heard on the Island

By Dale Rankin

They say if you are going to steal then steal from the best so with apologies to Mr. Sondheim this week as Merrily We Roll Along toward the end of another go around this one called 2022 it is a time for reflection so here goes.

La Posada

I have been involved in one way or another with the La Posada Lighted Boat Parade since attending the my first in 2004 and have been involved in helping to promote it each year since taking over the Island Moon in 2007 and I have watched it evolve. When I first got involved Ann Weber was the driving force and she gave it structure. She formed committees for various tasks and the event went from a Big Party to a Big Organized Party. Along the way the Marine Reserve Toys for Tots program was brought in and the event passed to the Padre Island Yacht Club and then in 2016 it was spun off as its own organization when it was taken over by Fred Edler. The kickoff party was added and the route of the Friday night parade was extended to the JFK Bridge as the event was televised live.

Each year a small army of Islanders signed up to make things move smoothly and each year has been a little bigger and better than the last – especially when the weather cooperated. But the perpetual fly in the ointment has always been coordination of the flow of the boats through the course of the parades as wildcatters jumped in unannounced and registered captains found a deck party they like and dropped anchor. I have also been a judge several times and the problem was always figuring out which boat was which as numbers were obscured or absent altogether. When your judge's sheet says "Spirit of America" and the boat you are looking at is full of nothing but elves you know it the wrong boat but you don't know which wrong boat. It's been the bugaboo of the event organizers ever since I can remember.

But not this year. This year's event was the most organized I have attended in spite of the vastly increased number of moving parts. KRIS TV which televised the event rolled up their sleeves and over the course of six meetings put together a production schedule down to the minute to make sure the boats on Friday came by the live camera position and the judges' station at Snoopy's Pearl Oyster Bar right on cue and that was not an easy task. The plan which was executed without a visible flaw had to fill a total of thirty-seven minutes of air time while allowing for gaps of one-minute and thirty seconds for commercial breaks when you don't want boats going by; it also had to have a contingency for random gaps of the same duration which is the time it takes for a commercial barge to pass through the parade route. The first year the parade was routed along the Intracoastal that happened on live television and since the barge had a red and a green light I claimed it as the Island Moon float but got little traction from the judges.

This year there were parade marshals on the boats and along the route with radios to talk to the boats, the judges' stand, and the producers. There were four camera positions – including on the boats – and a drone working and from my vantage point at the judge's stand it all flowed perfectly. As an old television guy I can tell you making all of those moving parts work together is not an easy task and I have been around the event each year since it was first televised in 2019 and this year's production quality was by far the best.

From the kickoff party to the last boat of the Saturday parade the organizers of this year's event hit this one out of the park so we include their photo here as a Victory Lap. The bad news and I hate to break it to you but...you guys are on the hook for next year!

Quite a Throw down

And now we move from Sondheim to Talley-Rand who coined the phrase "from the sublime to the ridiculous." For those like myself whose invitation got lost in the mail they had quite a party down at the Port of Corpus Christi the other night to celebrate their 99th year. To be specific it was a \$487,000 shindig with \$200,000 spent for entertainment, \$100,000 for decorations, \$125,000 for food and even \$4400 for nice invitations to the 800 invited guests. You can get a pretty good polka band for \$200,000 in fact you might even be able to add a tuba player.

Why someone thought it was a good idea for a public entity to spend \$487,000 on a party – with or without a polka band – is a question to be answered above my pay grade. The spending, and the politics surrounding the port and the fight over desalination are getting weird down there. They are passing around the Kool-Aid and there are plenty of drinkers – you can buy a lot of Kool-Aid for \$125,000 – but I suspect things are about to change.

All three of the Nueces County appointees to the seven-member board are up for re-appointment next year and with the change in the County Judge's seat it seems unlikely any will be re-appointed – one is termed out. And judging by the verbal lashings the city's appointees have been getting at City Hall of late the chances of the three city appointees who are up for reappointment next year returning are not looking so hot either.

The construction of two new pipelines to the port from the Permian and all the growth- \$50 billion and counting – apparently has the commissioners feeling pretty good about their stewardship and there is some credit due there. But a half-million dollar party reminds me of the trust funder who was born on the third and thought he hit a triple.

Let's see where we are in December 2024.



La Posada Board:
 Lee Neitzel- Toy Collection
 Ann Aylesworth- Boat Co -Captain
 Bob Corbett - Boat Captain
 Hilda Perez Garcia -President
 Debbie Davenport- Treasurer
 Marvin Jones- Advisory Committee
 Rose Crookston - Secretary



KRIS TV Parade Team

Show us your stuff!
 Send photos and letters to editor@islandmoon.com
 Find us on Facebook @Island Moon
 Read Online at www.islandmoon.com

The Island Outdoors



On the Rocks
By Jay Gardner

The Christmas parties are in full swing, people are making plans to travel or not, and here I am staring at a stack of work that needs to be done. There’s another week and a half before the break, the weather looks like it’s going to start dusting out, and my truck is in the shop anyway with a busted transmission (again). Looks like I’m going to get a jump on those winter-time projects I always talk about whether I like it or not. Bah! Humbug! I’m going to make the best of it anyway and have learned to find joy in activities that I used to do as a matter of course. I stopped at the store the other day and got some seed starter trays and soil, and my buddy Baxter dropped off a big bag of Esperanza seeds. Esperanza’s are those almost evergreen bushes/shrubs that have big yellow, showy flowers most of the year. Hummingbirds and bees love the flowers, which are slightly fragrant. The plants are extremely drought tolerant and can freeze to the ground if it gets cold but will come right back from the root ball in the spring. Esperanza is a much better choice of landscaping than oleander. I planted around 150 individual trays with the seeds, with between 3-7 seeds per unit. Esperanza’s don’t have the best germination rate, but they produce seeds prolifically. Speaking of hummingbirds, I have not seen one or heard any reports for several weeks, so I will likely pull my feeders down and store them for the winter. This time of year, it’s a good idea to soak your feeders in a light bleach solution and make sure and kill the mold that may have built up on some of the pieces, especially the plastic ones. I am no longer feeding sunflower seeds, as the redwing black birds have descended on us from the wheat fields in Kansas for the winter. The yellow rumped warblers are moving in (“butter-butts”) and are likely mowing down the Brazilian pepper

seeds. The freeze a couple years ago gave us an opportunity to try and check that noxious tree, but they are roaring back with a vengeance. Anyhoo... I’m also going to get out the circular saw and nail gun and make some bird nesting boxes. There are plenty of plans on the interwebs, and they are super simple to put together. I like to use old cedar pickets from fences, as they lack chemicals and are closer to natural wood that birds prefer. Plus, cedar is typically longer lasting and insect resistant. I recommend keeping the hole smaller than 1-1/2” or you might wind up with a golden fronted woodpecker trying to open the hole up bigger and ruining the nest. The attractive thing about the small hole is that it provides protection from other nesting birds who might be more aggressive and eat the eggs or kill the chicks. It’s brutal out there. I build mine with the vents on the “roof”, and only use a couple of nails to hold that on, that way when I take them down next fall, I can pry the lid off and empty the next out and get ready to re-use the following season. You can improve your chances of getting some birds interested in your boxes by adding in a pinch of hay and/or some dryer lint. Smaller birds like wrens, lesser American goldfinches and tufted titmice are my favorites, as their songs are elaborate, and the birds are pretty. We’re a little far west for eastern bluebirds, but you may get surprised. In addition, bird nesting boxes make really great Christmas gifts. Just saying. Well folks, it’s been an interesting election season. I really don’t have any comment at this time. Projects are still going forward, as things need to be done. Drop me a line at tarponchaser@mail.com and I’ll see you next week On the Rocks.

Tides of the Week

| 15 Dec | 16 Dec | 17 Dec | 18 Dec | 19 Dec | 20 Dec | 21 Dec |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Thu ↗ | Fri ↗ | Sat ↗ | Sun ↗ | Mon ↗ | Tue ↗ | Wed ↗ |
| | | | | | | |
| 9:15PM 1.38ft | 7:30AM 0.79ft 9:22PM 1.25ft | 10:15AM 0.89ft 9:26PM 1.18ft | 12:23PM 1.12ft 9:18PM 1.12ft | 1:52PM 1.41ft | 2:56PM 1.67ft | 3:54PM 1.9ft |
| 12:35PM 0.23ft | 5:41AM 0.75ft 1:24PM 0.46ft | 5:02AM 0.56ft 2:35PM 0.75ft | 5:01AM 0.3ft 5:21PM 1.02ft | 5:18AM -0.03ft | 5:48AM -0.36ft | 6:27AM -0.66ft |
| 7:11AM 5:36PM | 7:12AM 5:36PM | 7:12AM 5:37PM | 7:13AM 5:37PM | 7:14AM 5:38PM | 7:14AM 5:38PM | 7:15AM 5:38PM |
| 12:28PM | 12:57PM 00:16AM | 1:27PM 1:11AM | 1:58PM 2:08AM | 2:32PM 3:07AM | 3:12PM 4:11AM | 3:59PM 5:19AM |

The world can be your oyster

New Online Portal Available for Oyster Mariculture Permit Application

In 2020, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) began accepting applications by mail for oyster mariculture permits to grow and harvest oysters commercially in public waters. Now, these applications can be submitted and tracked electronically through the [online TPWD permitting portal](#). New functionality within the permitting portal allows applicants to submit all documents and answer application questions online. Applicants will have the option to make payments online or by mail. Once their application is submitted, permittees will be able to track the application’s progress and see their permit history. This is the third permit to become available through the new online system, and TPWD plans to add more in the coming years. TPWD has updated its oyster mariculture webpage to help guide people through the application process.

With natural oyster reefs along the Gulf coast struggling from weather events, flooding and overharvest, oyster mariculture has been gaining more and more traction for people looking to enter the oyster fishery in a new and different way. Mariculture includes the use of off-bottom cages to grow oysters, which has been gaining popularity throughout the United States and Gulf Coast region. With the passage of HB 1300 by the Texas Legislature in 2019 and subsequent rule adoption by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission, the first cultivated oyster mariculture website went live in August 2020. Texas currently has three fully permitted oyster mariculture Grow-Out operations open for business and two fully permitted oyster mariculture Nursery-Hatchery operations open. Several more Grow-Out sites are in the stages of the permitting process.



Backwater Adventures

By Joey Farah
Farah’s Fishing Adventures

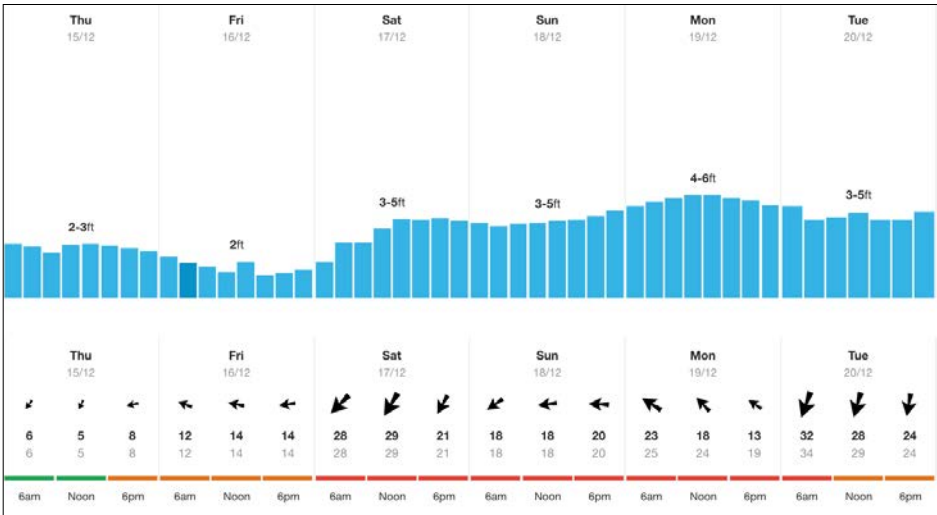


Last week’s sunny skies were greatly appreciated by man and beast. I released this large trout after the photo while drifting 4’ of water along the Flour Bluff Shoreline, DOWN SOUTH LURES Magic Grass with a 1/8th ounce jig head.



Mike holds a great trout we caught and released in the Laguna Madre this week before the cold front. Finding the right color soft plastics can be confusing, vary between darks, brights, and natural colors. DOWN SOUTH LURES BONE DIMOND.

Packery Channel Surf Forecast



*The last palm tree from the swim-up bar at the old Schlitterbahn was moved this week.
Photo by Dwight Jackson.*



To each bird his own post. Evelyn Pless-Schuberth

Nature Notes

Short-billed Dowitcher

by Taylor Bennett



A Short-billed Dowitcher standing in the water

By Ray Hennessy

Gulf Coast Bird Observatory surveys for non-breeding shorebirds along the Upper Texas Coast as part of our avian research. We continue to monitor Matagorda Beach, Bryan Beach, Quintana Beach, Surfside Beach, and Follet’s Island until the end of March. Our target species are Piping Plover, Snowy Plover, Red Knot, Black Skimmer, and American Oystercatcher. Along with these species, many other shorebird species winter here as well such as Short-billed Dowitcher.

Like many shorebirds, Short-billed Dowitchers migrate in the summer to breed in the subarctic regions of Canada and Alaska. We typically observe them here in the fall and winter, feeding and roosting in flocks. They are medium-sized chunky shorebirds and are very similar to Red Knot, except their bill is longer and thinner.

Short-billed Dowitcher plumage changes depending on the season. During this time of year, they are brown and gray, with white bellies and gray breasts. They have a very distinct white eye stripe or eyebrow, yellow-greenish legs, and in flight there is a distinct white wedge that forms a “V” along their backs.

Short-billed and Long-billed Dowitcher are difficult to tell apart. Believe it or not, the difference is not in the length of their bill like their name implies. In fact, the male Long-billed Dowitcher bill length is exactly the same size as the Short-billed Dowitcher and it is the female Long-billed Dowitcher that has the longer bill. The bigger difference between the Short-billed Dowitcher and the Long-billed Dowitcher is their breast color and the habitat they are observed in. Short-billed Dowitcher breasts are a lighter gray and spot-

ted while Long-billed Dowitcher breasts are slightly darker and barred. They also share the same song, but their calls are also different. Short-billed Dowitcher have a mellow *tu tu tu* and Long-billed Dowitcher have a sharp *keek*.

Short-billed Dowitcher prefer salt water habitats such as tidal mudflats, beaches, salt marshes, and areas along the coast, while Long-billed Dowitcher prefer freshwater habitat such as freshwater pools, tidal lagoons, and are most commonly found inland. So, if you spot a Dowitcher on the beach, odds are that it is most likely a Short-billed Dowitcher. My intern and I observed them while surveying along the shore of Follet’s Island.

Short-billed Dowitchers have similar feeding habitats as Red Knots. Since their bill is slightly longer and thinner, they can probe deeper in the mud or sand. They have two different feeding methods: jabbing and probing. Jabbing is when they quickly strike their bill down and immediately bring it back up. Probing is when they plunge their bill in the substrate and rapidly move it up and down. They are often described as being like sewing machines and their bill acts as the needle. They feed on mostly buried invertebrates such as marine worms, small clams, fiddler crabs, shrimp, isopods, and amphipods. During the spring, they will feed on horseshoe crab eggs.

Short-billed Dowitcher populations are in decline due to hunting, loss of habitat, and changes in habitat. All shorebirds are protected due to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The best way to help them is give them their space, drive slowly, and to keep pets on a leash. On behalf of Gulf Coast Bird Observatory, thank you for reading.



By Pastor Kris Bair

Clothes Make the Woman?

I’ve been thinking about clothing today—maybe because of the holiday season. More likely because of the blessed cold front that just arrived.

But the minute I began thinking about what to wear today, a whole passel of memes about clothing began parading down my Facebook feed.

I was delighted by the one with Tyrannosaurus Rex and some Dino friends in a Jurassic Park, each sporting a different sort of fedora hat, with the caption “Because of gaps in the fossil record, we can only guess at trends in prehistoric haberdashery.”

With their short front arms, I have no idea how they could get those hats up on their heads. They must have had really tall valets.

But the meme that really spoke to me was one of the bottom half of Lmao Mommy (presumably—she may have posed for it) in a pair of charming grey-and-white sweatpants with black ankle cuffs.

The meme reads, “My favorite fashion style is called ‘I wasn’t planning on getting out of the car.’”

It’s a thing, especially since we’ve begun using Zoom so much—casual comfort, at least on the bottoms.

And I was immediately reminded of an intrepid minister in Montana who offered summer early-morning services at the local drive-in.

Whole families in their PJs attended, attaching speakers to their driver-side windows.

Praise the Lord and pass the oatmeal!

And then there was the lengthy post about dressing a middle-schooler. Mom agonizes over whether she should wash the good pants needed for that night’s concert or not—the child is at school and has been remiss about getting the pants laundered.

Teach the kid a lesson and make her wear dirty pants? Be shamed by other mothers for not doing her duty? What’s a mother to do?

I feel her pain.

The GP (Great Provider, my husband) invited me to attend a book signing event with him (it was his book and he was going to sign it—repeatedly) in the Big City, several hours away. I raced home after work, jumped in the pick-up with him, and off we went. We got about 50 miles down the road when I noticed he had some rather prominent stains on his pants.

When I pointed them out, he denied it, saying he was sure he had put on a clean pair of dress pants—they had been hanging in his closet!

I said nothing, but put my finger directly on the biggest stain.

He glanced down and then said bitterly, “Well, it’s too late to go back.”

And it was.

Fortuitously, a WalMart sprang up beside the road and I sent him in to get new pants.

He picked out and tried on a pair and just kept them on, walking up to the cashier and asking her to use her hand scanner on the tag hanging from his waist.

Dumbfounded, she recovered enough to accommodate him. Out he came, looking like a male Minnie Pearl. Luckily, I had some clippers in my purse and got the tag off, and away we went.

I have to admit, this could’ve been me.

I adhere to the wisdom of Willie Dixon’s song “Built for Comfort, Not for Speed.” And as I get older, I find it even more compelling—I don’t speed at ALL anymore!

Except maybe in car. Sometimes.

I quit trying to be a fashionista at about age 18. No amount of fine clothing or make-up could mask my personal inelegance.

And I have too many other things to worry about and spend money on.

This is not to say I don’t appreciate others’ ability to be fashionable and to do so with grace. I especially enjoy the Facebook feed of Mrs. Daffodil, who shares pictures of historic clothing and styles, along with snippy commentary to match.

As for me, I’m happy with a few dresses all in the same loose style, several denim skirts, and tunic tops. That’s dress-up.

But most days you’ll find me in my one pair of blue jeans or some denim Capris, with a t-shirt or loose top and Crocs.

This time of year, I welcome winter with flannel and thermal shirts, and dig out my socks. And as for haberdashery trends, I switch out my summer beach hat for a warm woven one.

I’ve cleared coat closet out and now have one winter coat/raincoat (removable liner); one windbreaker, and one hoodie. The rest of my clothes have bit by bit gone to Good Will with a good will.

Perhaps the best thing about losing all the extra clothes is that it limits my choices—with less to wear, I no longer agonize over what to put on!

St. Paul said we should “put on the full armor of faith,” but we’re not fussy at Island Presbyterian Church. Just clothe yourself with what pleases you—it’s what’s inside that counts!

You can join us at 10 a.m. on Sunday, corner of Fortuna Bay and Gypsy, nursery provided. Or catch us on Livestream or Zoom from our Facebook page or website.

Christmas Eve services will be at 6 p.m., and we’ll share a brief service of prayer and carols on Christmas Day at 10 a.m. We wish you a peaceful season!

By Ed Proffitt

Going Native

Lawn Grasses

People tend to love their lawns. They are motes of green around our homes. The industry creating and maintaining residential (and golf course, etc) lawns is thriving and worth billions. NASA Earth Observatory estimates that there is about 128,000 square kilometers (or over 48,400 sq miles) of residential, commercial, and golf course “lawns” in the U.S (see <https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/features/Lawn/lawn2.php>). That’s about the size of Kentucky --- all planted and maintained (water, fertilizer, pesticides, etc) in mostly non-native grasses. Few of these grass species are native to our region, and even fewer native to Padre Island. Also, some grasses have “escaped” and are now considered invasive problem species. Another big issue with these plants is that many are water guzzlers, which coupled with both the increasing drought potential and projected human population growth, should give us all pause when considering plant use.

Take Bermuda grass (*Cynodon dactylon*), for instance. It’s commonly planted in many parts of Texas in lawns and sports fields but is listed as an invader by the Texas Invasive Species Institute (<http://www.tsusinvasives.org/home/database/cynodon-dactylon>). Its origin is thought to be either Africa or India, but it has been introduced around the world and cultivated and genetically modified. In Texas it’s considered a problem for several important crop species. It can rapidly reproduce both sexually and by clonal growth via “runners” (stolons) and its roots penetrate relatively deeply into the soil increasing the difficulty of eradication. Also Bermuda grass produces foliage so dense that many ground nesting bird species seldom use it.

Another unfortunate favorite is St. Augustine grass (*Stenotaphrum secundatum*). It’s not a serious invasive species (although

it has become naturalized in many places) but it sucks water like it’s going out of style. St. Augustine grass evolved to live in wet, warm, humid climates. According to a Texas Hill Country Alliance report annual rainfall in the native region is often 65 inches/year (see <https://www.hillcountryalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/St-Augustine-Fact-Sheet-highres.pdf>). A visit to the Padre Island National Seashore web site indicates that north Padre Island receives about 29 inches/year. St. Augustine grass might survive on that, but only if it came mostly during warm growing season --- and as we all know that’s often our driest season. Not to mention cinch bugs and other diseases and pests that require pesticides for control. And, the final nail in the coffin – it needs regular “feeding” of nutrients during the growing season. Runoff of nutrients into our coastal waters can fuel algal blooms that we don’t want; and, don’t get me started on the effects of pesticide runoff.

The good news is that there are native alternatives! A colleague at Texas A&M – Kingsville Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute suggested seashore dropseed (*Sporobolus virginicus*) and saltgrass (*Distichlis spicata*). They’re native to the island, and can definitely handle our dry conditions, heat, and salt. Another is red lovegrass (*Eragrostis secundiflora*) also on the Padre Island National Seashore list of native plants. This latter plant is available from Douglass King Seed Company in San Antonio and is a commercial release of the TAMU-K group. I find it comforting news that scientists and plant companies are partnering to bring us native alternatives to at least in part off-set the ecological disaster of non-native lawn grasses. So, that’s it for this week...keep Going Native.



Saltgrass-Distichlis-spicata in native coastal habitat



sporobolus virginicus seashore dropside in native coastal habitat

Earthquake in West Texas

Texas Railroad creating seismicity reduction response plan

Following a 5.4 magnitude earthquake on November 16 in Reeves County, the Railroad Commission of Texas is implementing several revisions to the seismicity reduction response plan in the Northern Culberson-Reeves Seismic Response Area (SRA).

The SRA was created to address the intensity and frequency of earthquakes in the area and reduce the occurrence of high-magnitude seismicity such that recurrence of 3.5 magnitude events is decreasing by December 31st, 2023.

The response plan sets curtailments on the injection volumes of produced water (which is water produced during oil and gas production) into disposal wells. The scope of the plan is being revised following reviews of seismicity data and injection volumes.

The SRA boundary is being expanded northward to the New Mexico border, which will increase the size of the SRA from 2,366 square miles to 2,601 square miles. There are 78 active disposal wells in the revised SRA.

The target for reducing daily injection volumes in deep disposal wells is being reduced even further. Operators of deep disposal wells in the Revised Response Plan have agreed to reduce

the collective volume of disposal from the original target of 298,000 barrels per day by June 30, 2023 to 162,000 barrels per day by that date. This would be about a 68% drop in disposal volume compared to January 2022 before the plan went into effect.

More changes are on the way. RRC staff continue to study revisions to the shallow disposal well injection volume schedules in the SRA and will be looking at changes along with possible new data collection efforts.

The potential lag time between changes in injection rates and changes in seismicity varies; historical activity indicates a potential lag time of 12-18 months.

As part of the recent revisions, the RRC will also promote expanded data collection to support seismicity research to inform policymakers on future data needs for effective regulation to protect residents and the environment. The data collection will include a voluntary survey of available historical and current reservoir pressure, encouraging the use and reporting of continuous down-hole pressure monitoring data and assessing the origins of disposal volumes — whether from in-state or out-of-state sources.

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Sports

Sports Talk Special to The Island Moon

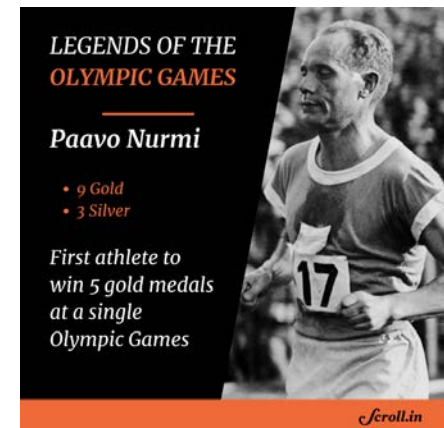


Paavo Nurmi- The Flying Finn Part 1

By Dotson Lewis

Dotson's Note: Paavo Nurmi was born on 13 June 1897 in Turku, a port town on the southwestern coast of Finland. In 1912 Hannes Kolehmainen "ran Finland onto the map of the world" at the Olympic Games at Stockholm by winning three gold medals in long-distance events. His races made an indelible impression on 15-year-old Paavo Nurmi, who decided to do the same. Soon, Paavo got his first pair of running shoes and began serious training. Thanks to Bill Morgan and Jari Salonen for the facts contained in this report and to Bill Morgan and the IAAF Hall of Fame, for the photos.

Hard Training Bears Fruits



Paavo Nurmi at 174 centimeters (5 ft 8.50394 inches) tall and weighing 65 kilograms (143.5 pounds) at his prime, was ideally built for a long-distance runner. In terms of basic training knowledge, Nurmi was self-educated. He was one of the first top athletes who had a systematic approach in training. Walking, running and calisthenics were the main elements of his harsh training regimen. He learned to measure his pace and its effects with a stop watch, and never raced without one in his hand. In 1914 Paavo Nurmi joined Turun Urheiluliitto, at the local sports club that he was to represent all through his career. On 29 May 1920 in Turku, Finland, he set his first Finnish national record. The distance was 3000 meters (3280.84 yards) and the time 8.36,2.

The Olympic Games at Antwerp-1920

The Olympic Games at Antwerp made Paavo Nurmi a star in Finland, a worthy successor of Hannes Kolehmainen. His first Olympic race, the 5000 meters, ended in bitter defeat to Joseph Guillemot of France. This was to be the only time that Nurmi lost in an Olympic final to a foreign runner, however. In the following days he won gold medals in 10,000 meters and the cross-country race, adding a third one in the team event of the latter.

Breaking Records

In the three years following Antwerp Paavo Nurmi reigned supreme in the world of long-distance running. On 22 June 1921 in Stockholm, he set his first world record: 30.40,2 in 10,000 meters. He went on to break world records in most distances from 1500 meters to 10,000 meters, exactly executing his carefully planned time schedules with little fear from competition. He once put his guiding principle to words: "When you race against time, you don't have to sprint. Others can't hold the pace if it is steady and hard all through to the tape." By the end of 1923 Paavo Nurmi held the world records in three prestige track events: the one mile, the 5000 meters and the 10,000 meters. No-one has done that before or since.



In Black-The Flying Finn

The Olympic Games in Paris-1924

The Games of the VIIIth (7th) Olympiad in Paris in 1924 were the finest hour of Finnish athletics and Paavo Nurmi in particular. In six days Nurmi won five gold medals: three individual ones and two in team events. His most legendary feat was to win the 1500 and the 5000 meters with less than two hours between the two finals. He also won the cross-country

race and led Finland to gold medals in the cross-country team competition and the 3000 meters team race. The French magazine Miroir des Sports wrote: "Paavo Nurmi goes beyond the limits of humanity."

The Phantom Finn

In 1925 Paavo Nurmi toured the United States. During five months he raced 55 times and gave numerous running exhibitions. He won 53 of his races, dropped out once and lost only once. Most of these races took place indoors. During that spring Nurmi got more attention in America than any Finn before or after. The press called him "The Flying Finn", the "Phantom Finn" or "The Finnish Running Marvel".

Turning Point of The Career

The demanding American tour left its mark on the great runner. Later in 1925 Nurmi raced a few times in Finland but broke no more records. In fact, in the Olympic distances he never did improve from his three world records made in 1924 (3.52,6 in 1500, 14.28,2 in 5000 and 30.06,2 in 10,000 meters). 1926 marked a turning point in Nurmi's career. A slow decline had started, and his victory margins began to grow thinner.

The Olympic Games at Amsterdam-1928

At 31 years of age, with eight gold medals and one silver, Paavo Nurmi had no great interest for further Olympic exploits. However, as success at the forthcoming Games would increase his market value at the American track circuit, Nurmi decided to go to Amsterdam after all. Once there, he won the 10,000 meters and came second in both the 5000 meters and the 3000 meters steeplechase.

On Foreign Tracks

In the autumn of 1928, in an interview to a Swedish newspaper, Nurmi said: "This is absolutely my last season on the track. I am beginning to get old. I have raced for fifteen years and have had enough of it." But he decided to go on, doing most of his running abroad from then on. In 1929 he embarked on his second American tour and in the next year he was back in record-breaking form, setting new world marks in six miles in London in June and in 20 kilometers in Stockholm in September.



The Olympic Games at Los Angeles-1932

In early 1932 Paavo Nurmi trained hard for his fourth Olympic Games, perhaps more determined than ever before. He wanted to defend his title in the 10,000 meters, but his greatest ambition was to crown his career with a gold medal in the Olympic marathon, as Hannes Kolehmainen had done in 1920. In that spring, however, Nurmi was suspended from international competition by the International Amateur Athletic Federation following accusations of professionalism. Nurmi did go to Los Angeles and kept training at the Olympic Village in spite of the ban and a foot injury. Some witnesses claimed that he could hardly walk from his pains, let alone run. Despite appeals Paavo Nurmi was never allowed to race at the Los Angeles Games. Nurmi was reduced to the role of a spectator, he could not bring himself to watch the 10,000 meters or the marathon, however. Nurmi claimed that he would have won the marathon by five minutes.

TO BE CONTINUED

Dotson's Other Note: When I was in the 3rd grade, I heard the story of "The Flying Finn" and decided I would be a distance runner, and was for about the next 85 or so years. Now I am seriously considering taking it up again. My goal at is to run consecutive ten minute miles. So far, I am a long, long way from that goal! Oh well, "If the going gets easier, you ain't climbing." Comments regarding Sports Talk are welcome, send to dlewis1@stx.rr.com or the editor of The Island Moon.



By Andy Purvis

A True Story

Pitcher Gaylord

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

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

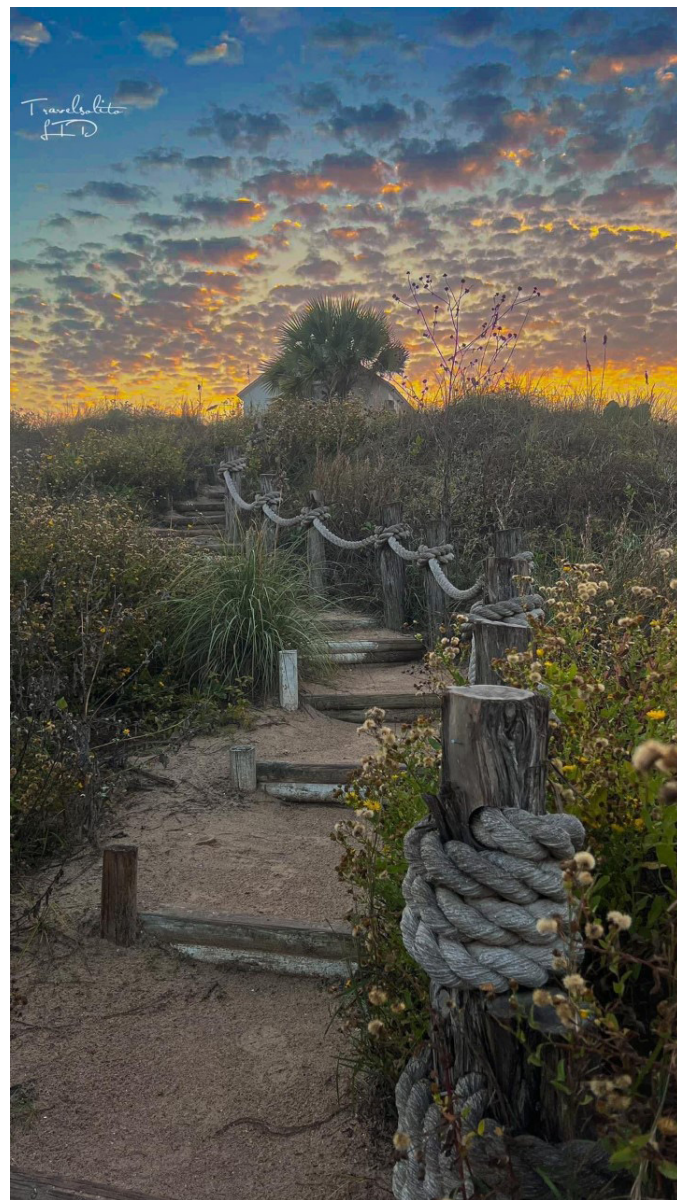


Gaylord Perry

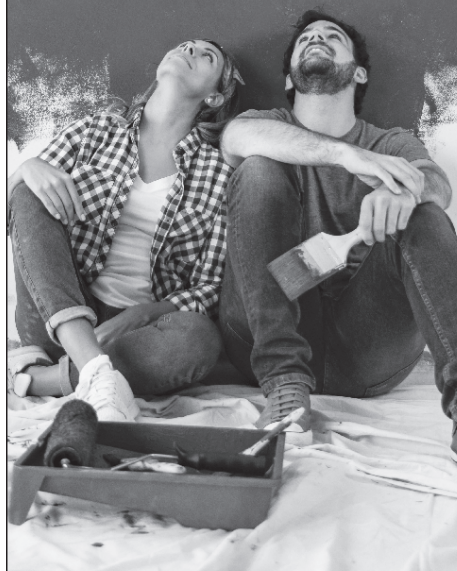
man on the moon before Gaylord Perry hits a home run." Interestingly, in the late 1960s, Perry's batting average hovered around the low .100s, with no home runs hit and only 13 RBI's recorded. On July 20, 1969, Gaylord brought an 11-7 win-loss record into his start against the Los Angeles Dodgers and starter Claude Osteen. More than 32,000 fans showed up for the 1 p.m. start. Amazingly, just seven minutes after Gaylord's first pitch, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin landed on the lunar surface. Approximately 25 minutes later, Gaylord stepped to the plate against Osteen and drilled a shot to centerfield that, to his amazement, cleared the wall. It was his first, and one of only six home runs he'd hit in his 22-year Hall of Fame career.

In 1983, Perry retired with 314 career wins, placing him in the top 20 in baseball history. He struck out 3,534 hitters and threw one no-hitter in 1968. Gaylord Perry was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1991. Gaylord Perry died of natural causes on December 1, 2022, at the age of 84. A true story!

Andy Purvis



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A new plan was unveiled this week for the draining of the Twin Lakes of Muddle and Puddle under the JFK Causeway. In spite of \$1.8 million in bonds passed in 2018 for improvements under causeway the lakes continue to spread and deepen threatening to become permanent wetlands or, a source of water for the Coastal Bend negating the need for a desalination plant as the current plan so far has not reduced the water level in either of the Twin Lakes and in fact they are currently morphing into the Three Lakes as they spread out northward.

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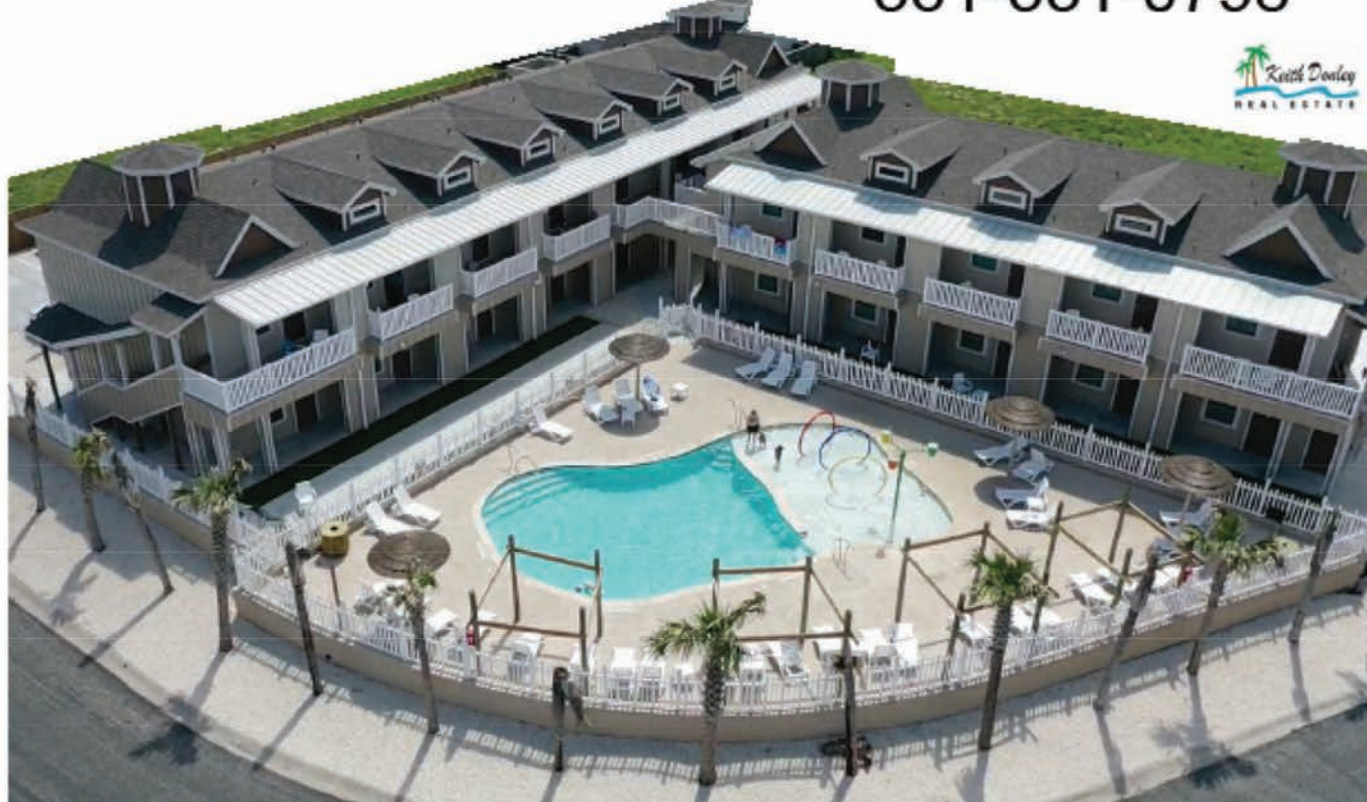
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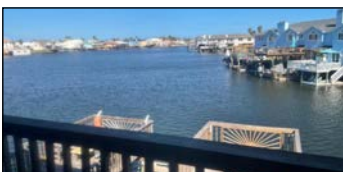
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JoAnn and Butch Smith took the Moon to Honduras and are seen here holding a sloth.



Island gardeners selected Mike and Roxanne David as December's yard of the month.



Seashore kids enjoying a warm day at the park after school.
By Mary Craft.

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¡Báte, Báte, Chocolate!

By Chris Jordan

Apparently our inveterate lighted boat parade almost didn’t happen this year due to all the construction going on in the city marina. I don’t know the whole backstory, but Thursday before last Neesy Tompkins called to explain that she and Jo Ellyn Krueger were undertaking a last-minute resuscitation of the cherished event. Neesy asked if The Port Aransas Cookbook could please provide hot cocoa and I enthusiastically answered in the affirmative. I had just been making hot cocoa, one cup at a time, from scratch, for various family members. Sometimes for celebration, sometimes for comfort, and sometimes just because. I was looking forward to making a 5-gallon batch to sate a hundred people for this Port A yuletide tradition.

My paternal grandmother was a bonafide Mexophile. In addition to her interests in the folk faiths of South Texas, she dabbled in some food traditions as well. Grandma secretly made tamales but didn’t tell Grandpa, letting him believe she had bought them from someone that had come ‘round the house. She would occasionally make my sister and me Mexican hot chocolate. If you don’t know, Hot Chocolate - The Mexico Edition, is a little different: the cocoa is a little coarser, there is always cinnamon, and it’s frothed. She made it from milk and *chocoláte de Mexico*, then dropped in a curl of cinnamon bark for garnish. Grandma used her trusty wire whisk to froth with good enough effect. To be honest, I wasn’t that big of a fan. The stuff was just too granular in texture for little Chris.

After my family moved from the San Antonio Southside to New Braunfels, my parents still worked in San Antonio. That doesn’t seem like much these days, but it was quite the commute back then. And when I say they worked in San Antonio, I mean downtown. Our home in New Braunfels was right in the middle of town there too, just a block from Landa Park. Mom and Dad would need to hire a nanny and interviewed several women. Most of them immediately struck me as old and mean. But there was this one applicant, Maria, with whom I saw some hope for my future. Maria seemed like fun, but alas, she would not be hired.

In a classic move right out of an old movie, my folks hired a strict old German lady. I don’t remember her name because she would only last one day. Frau Meanie came to work that first day, my parents left soon after, and immediately following my full-on screaming meltdown, I got to work. I was sick. I was hungry. I let my sister drink an entire jar of pickle juice. My sister was sick. I called my mom. I peed on the floor. I called my dad. I let the dog out of the yard. I did it all, ALL DAY. My little sister did her part too, best she could being such a sweet little thing. By the time my mom and dad were getting home from work, I had managed to run away from home and I’d taken my sister Claudia with me. Mom and dad found us down the street with my little suitcase on their way home from work. We hadn’t gotten far, but Frau Meanie had gotten nowhere.



Runaways



Doing time for a good cause! Alex Craft and Josh Dockens spent some quality time in the pokey at the annual Muscular Dystrophy Lockup. The lockup raised over \$4000.

Back at the house, Frau Meanie was sent home. I wrung my hands with smug delight as Mom called her second choice nanny on the phone. It was Maria! I was so happy! Maria! I loved her!

Maria had brothers, I could tell. Well, at least she wrassled like she did. She never let me win. Not to say I never won, she just never *let* me. OK, I never won. Of course Maria cooked for us kids, and did a little house work. I was always in the kitchen with her and we often cooked together. She was so nice and kind. Maria tried very hard to cook the kind of food we were used to eating and we tried very hard to eat the food she was used to cooking. Our respective endeavors in this area were sometimes successful. That winter it snowed twice in New Braunfels. Not much either time, but on the day of the second little flurry, Maria came prepared. That afternoon, she began to unpack some things from a bag she’d brought with her. Maria lived at home with her parents, and judging by the way these items were ensconced in her handbag, it probably wasn’t necessarily cool she had taken them out of the house. First was an *olla de barro*, an unglazed earthenware pot. Next Maria produced a *molinillo* which I assumed was a wand used in a ritual. Turns out, I was right. And then she unwrapped little *tablillas de chocoláte* from pieces of tinfoil. Maria sang us The Chocoláte Song as we heated the milk in the olla, melted the tablillas, and frothed it all up with the molinillo. She sang “*tu nariz de cacahuete*” but sometimes would alternately sing it in English and gently poke my little peanut nose with her finger. And then we went outside to try to make a snowman out of scant, rapidly melting snow.



A molinillo

Years later, we would move to Helotes on a little piece of property that would allow my mom and Claudia to pursue their passion of showing horses. Mom was a great cook, but she also appreciated modern conveniences. One of these was of course a hot cocoa cheat. Mom would make this giant batch of powdered instant cocoa. It included powdered milk, powdered coffee creamer, Nesquik, and sugar. Just add hot water. This came in handy during The Great Snow of ‘85. We got two feet of the stuff out in the country. I’d microwave a mug of water, add Mom’s science powder and think of Maria and her gritty Mexican hot chocolate. I thought of Maria often, mostly that I was seventeen and I could probably out-wrassle her now.

If you wanna make plain ole hot cocoa from scratch like we did for the lighted boat parade, it’s two tablespoons each of cocoa and sugar heated in one cup of milk.

A little Island history

Full Transparency and Disclosure

PIPOA News by Marvin Jones, President



News you can Use

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

Board Meeting- The Board meeting held on Tuesday, December 13, 2022, was a lively one. There were fiery verbal exchanges among board members, the Executive Director, and Board members. I was accused by a Board Member of deceiving the Board regarding documents and conversations with Diamond Beach Holdings. That is, I allegedly made a statement at the October Board meeting that I had no documents and had no communication with Diamond Beach. Let’s get the facts straight! That allegation is categorically false. I gave Board members at the October meeting a document prepared by Diamond Beach regarding a covenant amendment carving Diamond Beach properties out of the PIPOA. The document was reviewed at the request of Diamond Beach by the PIPOA Attorney. Thus, this document (the only document) was in the hands of all Board members at the October meeting. Therefore, to allege that I said there were no documents is incorrect. In addition, after reviewing the minutes of the meeting, it is clear that I informed the Board of a conversation I had with Diamond Beach regarding the above document and public statements Diamond Beach has made. You can’t make this up, folks. This kind of thing happens every election season.

The Board passed a new boat ramp parking policy. Parking on the boat ramps is reserved for members of the PIPOA. Members pay common area maintenance fees and therefore deserve their right to park. Tourists and non-members are allowed to launch and retrieve from the boat ramps but cannot park in boat ramp parking lots. To identify members of the PIPOA, members will be required to place a sticker (purchased from the PIPOA) on their vehicle. To purchase a sticker, it will be necessary for members to identify themselves as PIPOA members. There will be no more trailer stickers. A trailer must be attached to a vehicle to be parked on the boat ramp parking lot. Unattached trailers will be towed away. The full boat ramp parking policy will be posted on the PIPOA website and the Facebook page.

The Board passed and adopted a past-due CAM fee collections policy provided by the Board Attorney. The policy will be filed at the Courthouse. The new procedure will include liens, potential foreclosures, and payment plans. The Board recognizes how absolutely unfair it is for members that pay their CAM fees to carry the weight of those that will not pay their fees.

The PIPOA Board, after much discussion and dissension, was unable to agree on a budget for 2023. Therefore, the Board agreed to extend the 2022 budget until January 31, 2023. This will allow time for more Board discussions and, hopefully, reach a compromise.

The PIPOA Board discussed repairing the many cracks and fishers in the boat ramps that lead into the water. The Board reviewed bids and decided to seek additional information regarding the materials to be used in the repairs.

The Board passed a Motion to clarify and create an avenue for members to build docks beyond their own canal property line, thus onto PIPOA property in the canals. In order for a canal property owner to build a dock, they must first obtain approval from the Architectural Control Committee (ACC), and if they wish to build on PIPOA property, the Board must also approve. In addition, the Board adopted a plan to issue a license agreement to members who want to use PIPOA property. There will be a yearly fee to renew this license based on the length of the dock and linear footage for the property on the canal. This policy will be placed on the website and provided to members who apply for the license.

The next PIPOA Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 31, 2023, at 5:30 PM at the Padre Island Baptist Church located across from Whataburger.

Marvin Jones, PIPOA President

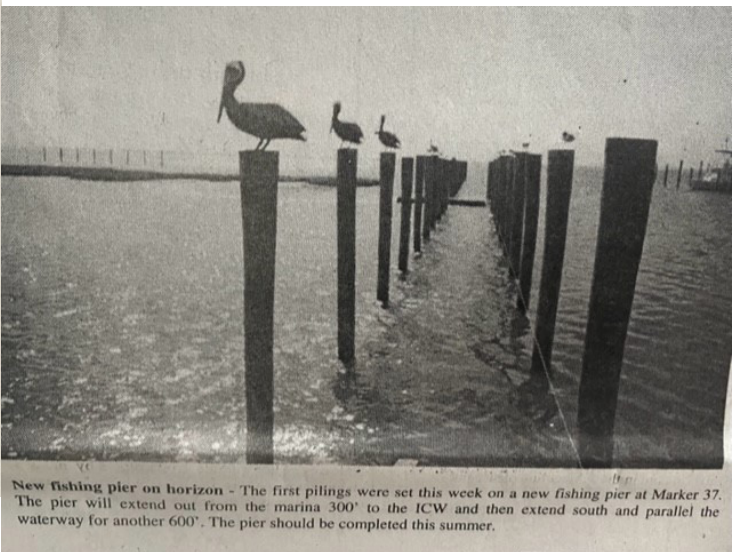
A look back...

The week of May 24, 2004 was a big news week here on The Island. Here are the highlights from that edition of the Island Moon.

Island Moon May 28, 2004



In welcome news for the Packery Channel project the Army Corps of engineers has reprogrammed surplus funding for continued work on the waterway. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison's announced the additional funding following a tour of Packery with Mayor Loyd Neal and other local officials this week. She is working to secure the remaining \$11.6 million necessary to complete the project.



New fishing pier on horizon - The first pilings were set this week on a new fishing pier at Marker 37. The pier will extend out from the marina 300' to the ICW and then extend south and parallel the waterway for another 600'. The pier should be completed this summer.

A3 North Pad

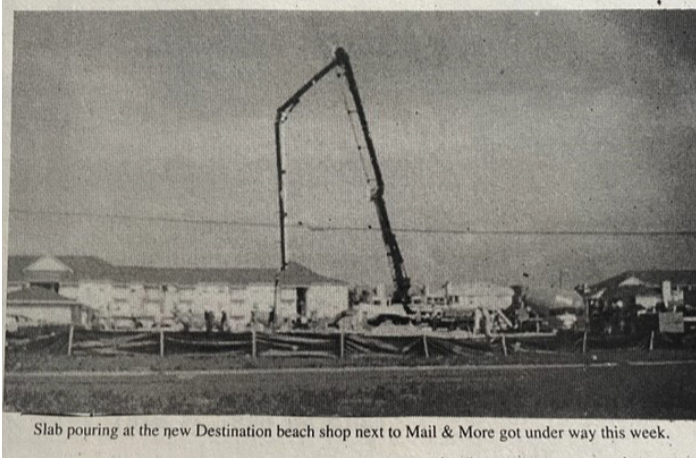


Padre Island National Seashore Drug and Illegal Immigrant Smuggling
by Randy Larson,
PINS Chief Ranger

Rangers found an abandoned "shark boat" from Mexico in the surf line five miles south of the park's visitor center on the morning of May 21st. Interviews with park visitors revealed that an organized smuggling operation had been underway there the previous night. An investigation is being

On the following afternoon, rangers spotted two vehicles near Mansfield Channel that appeared to be transporting illegal aliens. They began surveillance which was later continued by the Border Patrol. The two vehicles left the area late in the day. When they stopped near the park's entrance station, rangers and officers apprehended 11 illegal immigrants from Mexico.

Two days later, a ranger found and seized 15 bales containing over a quarter ton of marijuana. The bales had been cached on the beach and covered with seaweed in an effort to conceal them. They were probably delivered by a shark boat the



Slab pouring at the new Destination beach shop next to Mail & More got under way this week.

Sudoku

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

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

Knuckle-Cracker

| | | | | | | | | |
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| 1 | 9 | | 3 | 8 | | | | |
| | 5 | | 2 | | | | | 1 |
| 8 | 2 | 6 | | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | 8 | 3 | 1 | |
| 6 | | | | | | | | 4 |
| | 3 | 8 | 1 | | | | | 9 |
| | | | | | | 7 | 4 | 3 |
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Mind-Numbing Frustration

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

Brain-Buster

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



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Moon Crossword

Crossword Solution on classifieds page

- Across
1. Scrooge's kvetch
4. Ballet bend
8. On the surface?
14. In the manner of
15. Arrangement on the table
17. There are 13
19. George on "CSI"
20. "Walking on Thin Ice" songwriter
21. Spill it, with "up"
22. Not kosher
25. Ready response
27. Houston center
29. Knotty craft
33. It has 26 members
39. Work without ____ (take risks)
40. Name given to Patty Hearst
41. Take back property
42. There are 39 in a title
45. With the least thought
46. Adder's warning
47. Fall drink
50. Work for "Maxim," maybe
52. Top rating
53. "Tremendous" or "stupendous": abbr.
56. "Mon ____!"
59. One of 52
64. Like obscenities in family newspapers
65. Satan's Whiskers ingredient
66. Bear witness
67. Tarzan's trademark
68. Bass's home

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | | | | 15 | | | | 16 | | | | | | |
| 17 | | | | 18 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 19 | | | | | | 20 | | | | | 21 | | | |
| | | 22 | | 23 | 24 | | | 25 | 26 | | | | | |
| 27 | 28 | | | 29 | | 30 | 31 | 32 | | | | | | |
| 33 | | | 34 | | | | | | | | 35 | 36 | 37 | 38 |
| 39 | | | | | 40 | | | | | | 41 | | | |
| 42 | | | | 43 | | | | | | 44 | | | | |
| | | | | 45 | | | | | | | | 46 | | |
| | 47 | 48 | 49 | | | | | 50 | | 51 | | | | |
| 52 | | | | | | 53 | 54 | 55 | | | 56 | | 57 | 58 |
| 59 | | | | 60 | 61 | | | | 62 | 63 | | | | |
| 64 | | | | | | | | | | | | 65 | | |
| 66 | | | | | | | 67 | | | | | 68 | | |

- Down
1. "All your ____ are belong to us"
2. ____ Vista
3. How flirts may play
4. Psychedelic stuff
5. Novelist Harper
6. ____ many words
7. James Bond's alma mater
8. ____ Hill (Sisqo's original group)
9. They're often released before the album
10. Recurring phrases, in jazz improv
11. Barroom brawl
12. "Featuring ____ of thousands"
13. ZZ Top song covered by Kid Rock in 2002
16. "Achtung Baby" producer
18. Qishon River's country: abbr.
23. Label that bought Virgin Records in 1992
24. Tracy Chapman's first hit song
25. Deadlock
26. "It's not great, but not terrible either"
27. "That's the ticket!" preceder
28. Years, to Brutus
30. What entropy leads to
31. Dressing option
32. "You are in a maze of twisty little passages, all ____"
34. Maj.'s superior
35. Word after clip or martial
36. They may be treated with meat tenderizer
37. Omar of 2004's "Alfie"
38. Sleep badly
43. Charlemagne's domain, for short
44. Crabs, e.g.
47. Olaf, for one
48. Fumble-fingered
49. Tractor man
51. Words exchanged on the big day
52. Kind of blue
53. Fore's opposite
54. WWII time
55. Agree
57. Actress McClurg
58. Midshipman's inst.
60. "____ for Noose" (1998 Sue Grafton novel)
61. Thunder Bay's prov.
62. Cheer competitor
63. Boss of Flo, Alice and Vera

Police Blotter December 6-12

JFK Causeway to Aquarius light

Crimes against Person

SPID/Aquarius 3 p.m. December 11 Shots Fired/Deadly Conduct

Traffic

22 Traffic Stop
13300 block SPID 8 p.m. December 9 Crash
13300 block SPID 3 p.m. December 9 Crash
11800 block SPID Midnight December 9 Crash

SPID West to Laguna Madre

Crimes against Person

14300 block SPID 5 p.m. December 6 Assault with Injury
13900 block Binnacle 8 p.m. December 10 Terroristic Threat
14100 block Vincent 6 p.m. December 9 Assault

Crimes against Property

14300 block Commodores 9 p.m. December 6 Theft of Services
14300 block Goldfish 6 p.m. December 6 Burglary
13900 block Jacktar 1 p.m. December 9 Theft of Services
15300 block SPID 7 p.m. December 7 Theft of Services
16100 block Cuttysark 6 a.m. December 10 Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle
15700 block Dyna 10 a.m. December 7 Burglary

Disturbance

14300 block SPID 10 a.m. December 10
14400 block Commodores 6 p.m. December 7
16100 block Pionciana 2 p.m. December 10 Wanted Person

Suspicious Person

13900 block Lighthouse 8 p.m. December 11

15700 block Cuttysark 8 p.m. December 6

14200 block Bay Bean 5 a.m. December 10

Traffic

202 Traffic Stop
14800 block Aquarius 7 p.m. December 12 Crash
14400 block SPID 11 a.m. December 8 Crash
14800 block Aquarius 7 p.m. December 12 Crash
SPID/Whitecap 2 p.m. December 8 Crash
15300 block SPID 11 p.m. December 6 DWI

SPID East to Gulf of Mexico

Crimes against Property

14900 block Windward 2 a.m. December 10 Criminal Mischief \$100-\$750
10900 block Gulf Beach 10 p.m. December 10 Destruction or Criminal Mischief

Disturbance

14900 block Windward 2 a.m. December 10
11000 block Gulf Beach 11 p.m. December 10

Suspicious Person

15800 block SPID 5 a.m. December 12
Leeward/Bartholomew 6 p.m. December 12
11000 block Gulf Beach 5 p.m. December 11
6600 block Seacomber 7 p.m. December 9

Traffic

49 Traffic Stops

Moon Classifieds #974

Here's how to place a Classified Ad

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An Al-Anon group meets each Thursday at 7:00 PM at
St Andrew by the Sea
14238 Encantada Ave.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS
The Sunset 7 AA Meetings are held on Monday, Wednesday & Friday at 7 PM at :
The Presbyterian Church On the Island
14030 Fortuna Bay Dr.
In addition Sunday AA Meetings are held at 8 AM at
The Pavillon on the Boardwalk Near Padre Bali

PIE Holiday Home Tour 2022



Crossword Solution

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| B | A | H | | P | L | I | E | | D | E | R | M | A | L |
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| S | T | R | I | P | E | S | O | N | U | S | F | L | A | G |
| E | A | D | S | | | O | N | O | | | F | E | S | S |
| | | T | R | E | F | | | | | I | M | S | E | T |
| Y | A | O | | M | A | C | R | A | M | E | | | | |
| E | N | G | L | I | S | H | A | L | P | H | A | B | E | T |
| A | N | E | T | | T | A | N | I | A | | R | E | P | O |
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| A | T | T | E | S | T | | Y | E | L | L | | S | E | A |

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Winter Fine Arts at Seashore Middle Academy

Seashore Middle Academy students showcased their fine arts accomplishments at last week's Winter Fine Arts Night. Students enrolled in Dance I and Dance 2 performed several routines, music students sang Christmas songs, and Art students displayed their favorite pieces.



Students in Dance II strike a pose during their modern dance routine. They also performed a ballet number.



Art students displayed pieces made throughout the fall, from pencil sketches and paintings to ceramics and paper mache. Sebastian Turley shows an onlooker his painstakingly-crafted DeLorean.



Music students, pictured singing "Holly Jolly Christmas," sang an array of carols, interspersed with duos and a piano piece.



Music students Addison Murphy, Hadley Sides, Ella Schoene, and Mar Giese perform "Jingle Bells."



For their finale, students in both Dance I and Dance II performed the Jazz routine "Just Kiss Me." Pictured are Colee Sheehan and Milleigh Watson.



Seashore storybook tree at the Art Museum exhibit. Photo By Debbie Noble



St. Andrew by the Sea Catholic Church High School Group through their Soles for Souls program raised enough money to purchase more than 200 pairs of shoes to Flour Bluff students. The program started five years ago and FBISD greatly appreciates their efforts to help those students that have only one pair of shoes that are often too small.



Christmas carolers in Billish Park on Saturday. Evelyn Pless-Schuberth



Chasing Sunshine Photography 2022

Photo Erin Anderson

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Three Chords and the Truth

By Ronnie Narmour

ronnienarmour@gmail.com

Boats on parade...



We had fun at the boat parade with these guys from San Antonio who we just met.

Me and my **Mermaid Gal** had such a great time on Saturday night. The annual "Lighted Boat Parade" in Port Aransas was absolutely delightful. We had originally gone down to *Fisherman's Wharf* around sundown on Saturday to have a cup of the most excellent hot cocoa that **Chris Jordan** and his lovely wife **Andrea** were giving out right before the parade. And while we were standing around the docks we also ran into our buddy **Neesy Tompkins** who insisted that we take the free boat ride on the *Wharf Cat* and watch the boat parade from there. That turned out to be an outstanding suggestion. It was a bit sketchy trying to find a good vantage point to watch the parade from this year being that there's some major construction going on at *Roberts Point Park* and watching it from the park wasn't a viable option. So we climbed up to the upper deck and found a lady with two or three kids and sat down by her side. And those kids were having a ball. They were from San Antonio and their joy was infectious. I didn't catch the little boy's name but we worked up a routine yelling "Merry Christmas" with some super fine waving techniques. That little boy was really a hoot. We did spend some time running around town later, looking for some live music but the pickings were mighty slim. Just the luck of the draw on a chilly night in December I suppose but actually we were happy to just get home a little early for a change.

On the local front...

The Gaff will host their annual "Ugly



The Gaff will host their annual **Black Eye Pea Off** on New Year's Day.

Christmas Sweater" party this Thursday the 15th. That is always good for a few laughs. I'm always amazed at the outrageous sweaters that your average citizen has tucked away waiting for just the right moment to break it out. Also don't forget about the annual "Black Eyed Pea Off" at the Gaff on New Year's Day. I'm pretty sure they'll have **Coach Dude Dugan** performing for the festivities. I want to really hand it to the good folks at the Gaff. They are right there for every event we have going here in Port A, whether it's a parade or any tradition here in Port Aransas. **Kip and Heidi** are always at the front of the line to give props wherever they are due. Our community is a better place because of those kids... who, by the way, just got married recently and snuck away for a honeymoon on the Riverwalk in San Antonio last week. They work hard and deserve everything they get. I'm proud to call them my friends and they are truly pillars of our community.



The Gaff's Ugly Christmas Sweater party is this Thursday. Seen here are Memi, Kip and Lee.

DO NOT MISS LIST Coming this weekend...



Ray Wylie Hubbard will play a two nighter at the Third Coast Theater this weekend.

Without a doubt, the most exciting show I see on our radar is the two nighter that Texas troubadour **Ray Wylie Hubbard** will play at the *Third Coast Theater* this weekend. I adore this cat. I once drove non-stop from San Antonio to Gainesville, Florida by myself with only one CD in the car (*Delirium Tremolos* by Ray Hubbard) and I listened to it over and over for a thousand miles going and coming. I know the words to every song on that album and it's great. It's the same way with all his songs. He is a true wordsmith and a scholar of human emotions. I think he hung the moon... actually I'm pretty sure he did. I've hired him to play shows many times and have seen him play everything from dive bars and historical theaters and his songwriting skills are nothing short of genius. His songs are simple and are usually bluesy. And if he does cover someone else's song, you best believe it's going to be a killer song. His cover of **James McMurtry's** "Choctaw Bingo" is a good example of that. Also on Friday, **Kevin Fowler** will play the *Brewster Street Ice House* with **Carson Jeffrey**. That there is a great pairing and should be another killer show. On Saturday one of my local faves, the **Free Beer Band**, will play *Island Wine*. The Free Beer Band is a group whom I've known well for many years... in fact it was the *Tarpon Ice House* owner, **Paul Fain** and I that named the band. We had always wanted to put "FREE BEER" great big on the chalk board out front and then put "band" underneath real small... get it? Who knew the name would stick. And speaking of the Free Beer Band... this band is made up of a rotating cast of characters depending on the season. The core of the band has always been locals **Steve Goldstein**, **Dale West** and **Arnold Govella** but have members from other cities and other states. And in January the same group of musicians morph into the **PA Rockers** and play *Bernie's Beach House* every Wednesday until spring break. And trust me, you will want to see one of those deals... it's like a 60's sock hop on steroids. Trust me, it's insane. If you ever wanted to watch a room full of Winter Texans all jumping up and down while doing the *Twist* and the *Jerk*, then this is the place for you.

On the horizon...



The Free Beer Band will play *Island Wine* on Saturday

On the near horizon, we have stuff to keep an eye out for. On Friday the 23rd **Jarrold Birmingham** plays *Brewster Street Downtown* and **Kevin Fowler** is at *Gruene Hall* plus bluesman **John Cortez** plays the *Surf Club* and **Ty Dietz** is at the *Packery Bar* under the JFK Bridge. On Thursday the 29th **Roger Creager** will play *Brewster Street Downtown* with the great **Shaker Hymns** opening the show. I haven't seen a full list of all the shows on New Year's Eve but should have a better list for you next week. That ought to hold you for a while. Yall be safe.

♪♪♪ And, that's the truth ♪♪♪



Ty Dietz plays Kody's every Sunday.



Kip and Heidi are ready for Christmas.

LIVE MUSIC TONIGHT

Thursday,

December 15

Ugly Sweater Contest,
Jim Dugan @ Gaff
Ron Baker & John
Dunnaway @ Island
Wine
Jerry Ward @ Pelican
Miles and Dylan @
Island Italian
Brad Brown @
Blackbeard's
Truism @ Executive
Surf Club
Gold Soul,
RFAVXBOYFRIEND
@ House of Rock
Falco & the Wolf @
Brewster Downtown
Michael Burttis @
Brewster Southside

Friday,

December 16

Billy Snipes @ Gaff
Ray Wylie Hubbard @
Third Coast Theater
Afterglow @ Pelican
Lounge
Kevin Fowler, Carson
Jeffrey @ Brewster
Downtown
Trisum @ Brewster
Southside
Downtown Eli Brown
@ House of Rock
Flatbroke @ Rockit's
Alonzo Cruz @
Packery Bar
Afterglow @ Pelican
Ruben Limas @
Blackbeard's
Matt Hole @ Executive
Surf Club

Saturday,

December 17

Free Beer Band @
Island Wine
Jim Dugan @ Gaff
Ray Wylie Hubbard @
Third Coast Theater
Splendiferous @
Rockit's
Michael Burttis @
Brewster Downtown
Aaron Jacob @
Brewster Southside
Rockaholics @
Packery Bar
Otitis Media Music
Fest @ House of Rock
Billy Snipes @
Scuttlebutt's
Diamond's Edge @
Pelican
Miles and Dylan @
Blackbeard's
Rudolph Llanes, John
Elijah @ Executive
Surf Club

Sunday,

December 18

Tumble Dry Low @
Bernie's
Barbara Janice @
Island Wine
Chainlinks @ Brewster
Downtown
Dam Right Duo @
House of Rock
Jerry Ward @ Pelican
William Skrobarczyk
@ Executive Surf Club
Jennifer Gayle Bradley
@ Blackbeard's
Aaron Watson @
Gruene Hall

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Open Mic
Thursday: 7:30
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Friday:
Karaoke
Saturday: 7-10
Free Beer Band
Sunday: 3-6
Barbara Janice

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Monday,

December 19

Chuck Almaraz @
Blackbeard's

Tuesday, December 20

Open Mic @ House of
Rock
Ruben Limas @
Blackbeard's
Jerry Ward @ Pelican

Wednesday,

December 21

Michael Burttis @
Pelican
Kevin Kurtz @ Packery
Bar
Open Mic @ Executive
Surf Club
Ruben Limas @
Blackbeard's

Thursday,

December 22

Ron Baker & John
Dunnaway @ Island
Wine
Darren McGill @
Packery Bar
Acoustic Open Mic @
Rockport Little Theater
Updog, New Ends,
Mattman @ House of
Rock
Falco & the Wolf @
Executive Surf Club
Eric Graham @ Brewster
Southside
Brad Brown @
Blackbeard's

Friday,

December 23

Afterglow @ Sugar
Shack Fulton
Alley Catz @ Rockit's
AudioBox @ Pelican
Ty Dietz @ Packery Bar
John Cortez @
Executive Surf Club
Trisum @ Brewster
Southside
Jarrod Birmingham @
Brewster Downtown
Kevin Fowler @ Gruene
Hall
Afterglow @ Sugar
Shack Fulton

Saturday,

December 24

BELT SANDER RACES
(3 PM) @ Gaff
Afterglow @ Sugar
Shack Fulton
Michael burttis @
Packery Bar

Christmas,

December 25

Tumble Dry Low @
Bernie's
Jerry Ward @ Pelican

Monday,

December 26

Ruben Limas @
Blackbeard's

Tuesday,

December 27

Dan Sullivan @ Lelo's

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