

Issue 1031



The

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

Island Moon

The voice of The Island since 1996

January 19, 2024

www.islandmoon.com

Full Color Version Available Online!

Weekly FREE



Sleeping Beauty By John Najvar



By Dale Rankin
Islanders held their collective breath this week as the first serious Blue Norther came blowing in from OTB. The soundtrack Around The Island Sunday was the hum of Generac generators as Islanders tested their backup power supply with visions of Snovid dancing in their heads. But alas, we were in good hands as AEP had a pod of massive generator trucks parked at the end of Windward Drive and the recent upgrades to the Island grid kept the power flowing.

There was a temporary loss of natural gas early Monday as Islanders turned up the heat and overloaded the system for a short time. The disruption didn't last long but for some it meant a resetting of heater units and a relighting of pilot lights on water heaters, but in the scheme of things we survived the first cold snap of the year unscathed.



The turtles are cold
We need to take a moment out to thank the good folks over at the Texas Sealife Center who met the challenge of caring for turtles in distress this week as the cold water left them adrift (the turtles not the volunteers). Each year a group of Islanders step in to help out our friends in the phylum Chordata clan. We look forward to the day when the turtles warm up and will be released along the Michal J. Ellis Seawall as the cycle of Island life rolls along.



Our Winter Texan friends have arrived in force as you can tell from the turnout at the first Tuesday Kiwanis Club bingo event hosted by Brent Rourk at HardKnocks. They continue each Tuesday for the next few weeks but get there early if you want a good seat. The same is true at The Gaff in Port Aransas every other Saturday as the running of the belt sanders draws the Winter Texans like an Early Bird Special on steroids. Ronnie and the Moon Monkey finished third even as the Winter Texans came back to town with their new and improved sanders they worked on over the summer. The Island Moon Etymology Department is still taking suggestions for the name of a group of Winter

Around cont. on A8

Warm Hearts for Cold Turtles!

Volunteers at the Texas Sealife Center care for Cold-Stunned turtles as water temperatures drop



Sometimes turtles arrive by the truckload.

By Dale Rankin
When cold fronts blow across Padre Island and water temperatures in the hyper-saline Laguna Madre drop to 50 degrees or below the systems of marine turtles shut down rendering them helpless and in danger of dying. That is when a small army of Islanders step in to help. Almost as soon as The Island got its first taste of winter on Monday turtles began arriving by car, truck, and boats at the Texas Sealife Center at Packery Park on Padre Island. Cold stun events have a severe impact on sea turtles, they are vul-



nerable to low temperatures that cause them to become lethargic leaving sea turtles unable to swim or float which can lead to stranding. But once the turtles arrive at the Sealife Center their chance of survival is well above 90%,

Turtles cont. on A3

A Floating Seed Bank

Black Mangroves surviving despite recent freeze

By Ed Proffitt
Now that we've gotten our hard freeze behind us I'm sure you're all wondering how about those mangroves? You know, I've addressed them before, salt tolerant tropical trees that colonize our intertidal salt marshes as fairly short shrubs because of our harsh winters (harsh compared to the tropics, at least). Avicennia germinans, the black mangrove, comprises likely more than 99% of the local mangrove community.

Native cont. on page A8



Black Mangroves. Photo courtesy of Plantglossary.com

Bob Hall Pier Design expected by March 1

Construction expected to begin this year but some construction and regulatory hurdles still exist

By Dale Rankin
Complete plans for the new Bob Hall Pier are expected to be presented to the Nueces County Commissioners Court and Nueces County Coastal Parks Board by March 1, 2024, according to

information presented to the court this week. Plans for the \$20 million pier are being reviewed in an attempt to avoid the need for construction of a temporary free-standing structure for the placement of a crane

to handle 70-foot long beams, according to Parks Board Chairman Troy Adler. "We're not sure how much that separate structure would cost," Adler said. "The designers are

Bob Hall cont. on A3

A little Island history

A look back at Island freezes

As Islanders shiver their way through the first taste of winter 2024 the question of how often we have been hit by freezing weather over the years so we took a look back through our archives to 2007. According to the National Weather Service records going back to 2024 show that freezing rain and/or freezing drizzle has been observed on average every 3 to 4 years in Corpus Christi. At least one report of freezing precipitation in 24 separate years has occurred since 1924. A hard freeze swept through the Coastal Bend



Cleaning up dead fish.

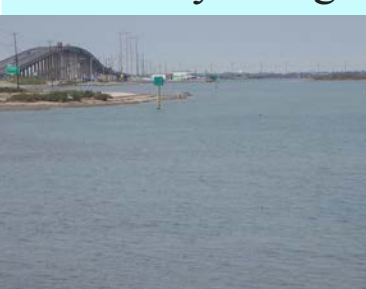
in 1989 and dealt a fatal blow to much of the citrus industry in the Rio Grande Valley marking a milestone in South Texas Weather. The recent freeze fits that model

with the last hard freeze being one of the most severe in February, 2021 plunging temperatures into

History cont. on page A5

No Wake!

Proposal would make Packery Channel No Wake Zone from Intra-coastal Waterway to Packery Bridge



By Dale Rankin
The Island Strategic Action Committee (ISAC) on Tuesday voted to recommend that the City of Corpus Christi make the entire portion of Packery Channel between the Intracoastal Waterway and the Packery Bridge at State Highway 361 a No Wake Zone. Currently the only section of Packery Channel in that stretch that is not a No Wake Zone is the channel at Packery Channel Park which is scheduled for construction of a "living shoreline" which would be impacted by the wakes of passing boats. The area is also one of the few stretches of shoreline on Packery Channel where the public can fish from the banks. Currently, the No Wake Zone ends at Clem's Marina and picks up again in front of the homes along Packery Channel south of the Packery Bridge. In unrelated developments enforcement of the No Wake Zone in Packery Channel is taking a leap

Packery cont. on A5

ISAC approves recommends solution to Island flooding problems Decision moves to City Council

By Dale Rankin
The Island Strategic Action Committee (ISAC), an advisory body to the Corpus Christi City Council made up of Islanders, unanimously voted on Tuesday to send a three-part plan to the council for approval that would address the problem of raised elevation of new homes on Padre Island causing flooding in existing, neighboring homes which are at a lower elevation. When the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issued a new flood map for Padre Island in 2015 it raised the elevation for new homes from the previous level of nine feet above Base Flood Elevation (BFI) to ten feet and an additional foot was added by the City of Corpus Christi to that to lower flood insurance rates across Padre Island. BFI is defined under FEMA regulations as the

ISAC cont. on A5



Dyna St. rain gauge shivers in the freezing rain



Evelyn Pless-Schuberth

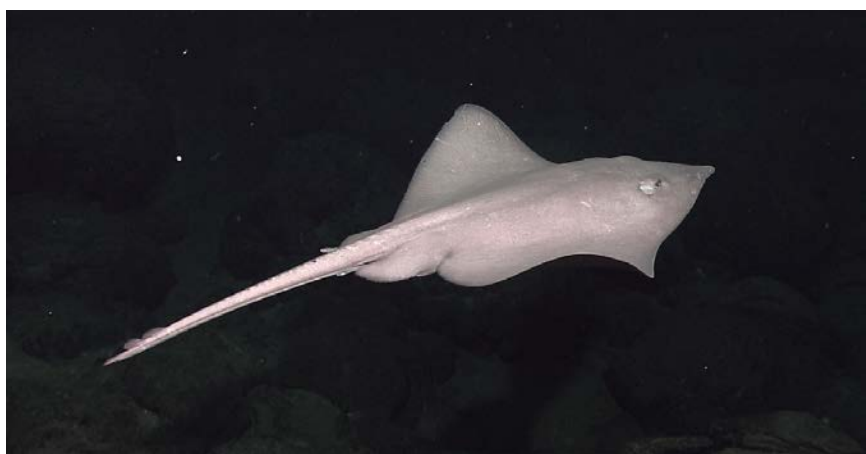


Monk parakeets recently seen at Bay Area Hospital Cancer Treatment Center.
Harry Williams



Nursery of Mermaid's Purses

When researchers went exploring an ancient underwater volcano about a mile below the surface off Canada's Pacific coast, they expected to find an extinct volcano in icy waters. Instead, they discovered that the volcano, rising more than a half mile from the ocean floor, is active—and in fact, the warm water it spews into the sea creates a utopia for the larger of two known nurseries of Pacific white skate eggs in the world. Scientists only recently learned that these skates, a relative of sharks and the second deepest dwelling skate in the world, live in these waters.



A deep-sea skate observed near a hydrothermal vent. Adults can reach five feet in length. Credit: NOAA Okeanos Explorer Program

But during their expedition to the seamount, the researchers' video captured a Pacific white skate gliding through a garden of deep-sea corals and laying eggs. A closer look revealed that the seamount was covered in thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands, of large skate eggs. Until this discovery, the only other Pacific white skate nursery known to scientists was in the Galapagos Islands, also in the toasty waters of a volcano's hydrothermal vents. But there, only a couple dozen eggs were observed.

The thousands of pouch-like eggs off Canada's coast are about ten inches across, giving them the nickname "mermaid's purses", since they look like they could be handbags for the mythical creatures. It can take about four years for baby skates to develop in the cold, deep sea, but biologists suspect the warmth from the volcanic vent—about 4.5 degrees Fahrenheit above the surrounding water—speeds up the eggs' incubation and increases the likelihood that more young skates will survive and eventually reach adulthood. The surrounding corals further protect the eggs, but the area is not protected by any human conservation, so scientists will continue monitoring it.



www.ScienceAndTheSea.org

© The University of Texas Marine Science Institute

Ten Years ago in the Island Moon



Stingrays had its ribbon cutting



Blake Farenthold and May Mendoza att a PIBA event.

Galveston's Tree Sculptures



Volunteers were lining up for the turtle rescue program at Padre Island National Seashore.

Casualties of Hurricane Ike Turned Into Works of Art

By Gladys Choyke

When Hurricane Ike hit in 2008, most of Galveston, Texas was covered by the tidal surge. The tidal surge uprooted or damaged many of the very old trees in the city. A group of home owners, mostly in the East End Historic District of Galveston, really believed the old saying....*"When life gives you lemons, make lemonade."* Instead of cutting all the trees to the ground, many were left several feet high. The homeowners who wanted something good to come out of the loss of the beautiful trees, banded together to hire artists, Earl Jones from Galveston, Dale Lewis from Richmond, Indiana, and Jim Phillips from Houston, to carve the killed trees into beautiful pieces of art. The cost of the sculptures was paid by the private residents and can be seen in gardens and in yards for all to enjoy.

The sculptures represent only a small portion of the trees damaged by Ike. The Galveston Island Tree Conservancy along with the Galveston Island Tree Committee worked to ensure that none of the "Iked" wood went to landfills. More than 100 tons of Galveston trees were used for the restoration of America's only remaining whaling ship, another 200 tons were sent to Malaga, Spain to be used to complete a replica of the Brig "Galvestown," and lumber yards in the area took several tons of wood to mill and dry for building projects. The Galveston Island Tree Conservancy has worked to "Re-Green" Galveston with the planting of more than 8,000 new trees since Ike.



Front and Back Yards • Dog Runs • Pool Decks • Patios • Putting Greens
Play Structure Areas • Commercial Applications • Indoor Turf and More!







WE OFFER EASY FINANCING



Get your dream project done with affordable monthly payments!

Brighten up your landscape with natural looking and natural feeling artificial turf. Your whole family will love it!

-  **PROFESSIONAL INSTALLATION**
-  **PET SAFE & PET FRIENDLY**
-  **NO MORE MOWING**
-  **SAVE WATER!**

MOON SPECIAL
\$500 OFF

Discount applies to installation. Restrictions Apply.

7522 BICHON, SUITE 301
CORPUS CHRISTI, TX 78414

NEXT 2 NATURAL TURF

361-300-4671
CoastalLifeTurf.com

Letters to the Editor

I AM WHEEL. HEAR ME SQUEAK.

Street closures

Leeward Drive – St. Bartholomew Avenue to Robla Drive

A contractor for AEP Texas is replacing power lines and poles along Leeward Drive. The contractor will implement daily side-walk and lane closures to provide a work area for construction. Motorists will have residential access at all times. Construction is expected to last several months.

Jackfish Avenue – Park Road 22 to Aquarius Street

Jackfish Avenue is closed for construction on the south lane from Park Road 22 South Access to Aquarius Street. Traffic will be reduced to single-lane one-way traffic going northwest-bound.

Rodd Field Road – Yorktown Boulevard to Mansions Drive

Foremost Communications is installing new aerial fiber optic facilities along Rodd Field Road. The contractor is implementing various daily temporary lane closures on the northbound travel lanes. Side streets intersecting with the work zone may be temporarily closed for a short period while crews run a fiber optic line across. Motorists will have access to businesses at all times during construction. Construction is estimated to last one month.

Turtles cont. from A1

according to Dr. Tim Tristan. “Our volunteers know what to do and the survival rate is very good once we get them here,” Dr. Tristan said. By mid-week more than fifty green turtles had been rescued from the Laguna Madre and brought to the Sealife Center where they will remain for several weeks until they can be released back into the wild when water temperatures rise above 55 degrees. Typically the waters of the Laguna Madre are a few degrees colder than those in the Gulf of Mexico and the all of the first wave of turtles arriving at the Sealife Center this week came from the Laguna Madre side of The Island. Individuals and agencies across The Island pitch in during each cold snap to find turtles, many of which are brought in by fishermen and hunters who are often the only people on the water during cold days. The volunteers come from the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, ARK, Sea World San Antonio, Texas State Aquarium, Texas Sea Life Center, Texas A&M University-Galveston, Houston Zoo, NOAA-Fisheries, Sea Turtle, Inc., Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas General Land Office, Texas Master Naturalist, Gladys Porter Zoo, University of Texas, Mission-Aransas Estuarine Research Reserve, Sea Tow, CCA, Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program, Keep Aransas County Beautiful, U.S. Coast Guard, Mid-Coast Sea Turtle Rescue and other organizations. If you find a stranded turtle transport it to the Texas Sealife Center at 14220 S Padre Island Drive, or call at 361 589-4023. Island turtles will thank you.



Once the turtles begin to move they are placed in heated pools for the next state of recovery.



Mr. Smith, The Duke of Paduka

In the very early days of the cattle industry in Texas and Kansas, Mr. Smith heard the ranchers were doing real good and making a lot of money so he decided to go to Texas and tryout his luck in the cattle business. He turned his castle over to his nephew, Caleb McHulihan jumped on a ship and took off for Texas. He bought a ranch in Laredo bought a spread of cattle, hired some cowboys to herd and tend to the cattle and started ranching. After three or four years of raising and selling the cattle , Mr. Smith did real good, so he decided to sell the ranch and move back to England and be with his friends. Exra MacDugal and Liam McCintosh met him at the docks as he came ashore, full of questions about Mr. Smith’s episode in Texas. Liam said, “Mr. Smith, tell us about your experience in Texas as to how you liked living in England.” Mr. Smith said, “Well, I liked living there real good because it was a challenge and I made a lot of money, but I did not like the way the Texas addressed me. “How’s that, Mr. Smith?” said Ezra. “Well, here in London as I walk down the cobblestone streets in Piccadilly Circus, I hear the blokes on the street say ‘there goes Mr. Smith, his Lordship.’ But in Texas as I walk down the dusty streets of Laredo I hear the cowboys in the saloons saying there goes Smith, that old #@#\$\$@! Bobbie Kimbrell

As a 20 year Winter Texan (in response to your Jan 12, 2024 issue) I propose the group name for Winter Texans’ be confirmed as WINTERBEES. A fun project. Best regards, Laurie V.

Dale, This is in response to the Island Moon Etymology Department’s request for help with finding the right word for groups of Winter Texans.

As a happy Winter Texan, my second choice for descriptor is the word SKEIN. It is almost the same as Skien, Norway. Skien is the Norwegian sister city of our summer camp in Dakota. There are lots of Norsk making the trek to Texas from Minnesota and the other Northlands.

Most importantly, the word SKEIN invokes the annual migration of large flocks of Snow Geese, Canadian Geese, and other great birds in glorious large V-formations. There is the concurrent migration of Winter Texans, sans V-formation. But, once safely grounded in Texas – the travelers are a gaggle? Really?

So, that leaves my not very exciting top choice from your list of terms to be DROVE. What do you call a group of Winter Texans herded into the RV parks? There was a DROVE of Winter Texans that attended the appreciation day. How did most of the Winter Texans get here? DROVE, You Betcha!

Steve Becker
Editor’s note: Drove is pretty good Steve but the suggestion box at the Island Moon Etymology Department is still open.

Bob Hall cont. from A1

of Corpus Christi will begin. According to information submitted to the court this week: Once final plans / specifications are complete, o/a March 1st, LAN will coordinate with the County, Construction Manager (Scott Meares), and Nueces County to get proposals and contract with the required third-party testing firms (Materials Testing, Windstorm, etc.).

- Testing is in project budget (Project Contingencies/ Admin).
- Construction Management (Meares) is in the budget.

County officials said construction on the pier is expected to begin by the end of 2024, however, delays could be caused by recent changes in federal regulation. Information presented this week reads as follows:

Regarding Marvin Jones’s letter, “Is the Municipal Management District a Trojan Horse?”, I’d like to first start by wondering why Mr. Jones thinks the state legislature did not have our interests at heart when they took the extraordinary steps to protect our bulkheads by creating the Padre Isles Management District (PIMD). What does Mr. Jones expect to happen in the absence of FEMA help if we’re hit by a Cat 5 hurricane? Should we expect the PIPOA to repair damages in the hundreds of millions of dollars with the funds on hand? If so he should take a look at its balance sheet. Mr. Jones selectively pulls from the law creating the PIMD with “Seek and provide needed funding for the district to preserve, maintain, and enhance the economic health and vitality of the district territory as a residential community and business center” and warns that the PIMD Board could go hog wild and start building shopping centers. If Mr. Jones would read a little further into the legislation he would find, “The district may undertake an improvement project or service only as necessary to reconstruct, preserve, and maintain bulkhead property.” And he warns of the use of PIPOA Common Area Maintenance (CAM) fees to build these shopping centers, yet nowhere in the legislation are CAM fees mentioned. How can he make that stretch? And he’s an attorney?

He then states, “The District Board of Directors chooses the Board of Directors for the District.” In fact, the city selects the PIMD Board of Directors, they don’t select themselves, though the Board can make recommendations to the city. “The governing body of the city shall appoint directors from persons recommended by the board.” (At present it would be pretty hard for Board members to make recommendations, because THERE AREN’T ANY! All five seats are vacant!)

Mr. Jones is correct in stating the PIMD can issue bonds to pay for bulkhead repair. And as a government entity, the District may qualify for FEMA reimbursement funding. Mr. Jones points out that FEMA help may not be forthcoming, in which case the PIMD will have to come up with a way to pay them off with interest. However without the PIMD taking ownership of the damaged bulkheads from a Cat 5 hurricane, how else are the hundreds of millions in bulkhead damage going to be paid, from PIPOA funds? Again Mr. Jones, look at the PIPOA balance sheet. Without the PIMD the bulkheads cannot receive FEMA help. But can anyone imagine, if the island is hit with a Cat 5 hurricane and the majority of our bulkheads are destroyed, that FEMA would not help? Has there ever been an occasion like that when FEMA hasn’t helped? Finally Mr. Jones does point out that the relationship between the city and the PIPOA could be viewed as “strained”. If strained I can think of some legitimate reasons for that. If the refusal to fill the PIMD Board seats by city council was a recent development then I suppose that canal connecting could be contributing. But the PIMD Board seat vacancies go way back. It appears that the city has been thumbing its nose at the state legislature by doing all in its power to undercut the noble action it took to protect our bulkheads by doing what it can to make the PIMD go away.

I am at a loss as to why Mr. Jones thinks the PIMD needs to change. To me, I am grateful to Rep. Hunter and then Sen. Hinojosa for creating the PIMD to protect our property in the event of catastrophic damage, and I urge the city council to immediately act and fill the PIMD Board seats. Ralph Ricardo

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permitting

- Issue: Following the Public Notice Period, the initial Letter of Permission process, and approvals from USFW, the Local USACE field office (Mark Portillo) reached out to National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to request comments on the project, this triggered NFMS review and request for a formal consultation. ONLY THE US-ACE can descope this and change it from a formal to informal consultation.
- Reolution: *Christine is working w USACE Galveston to ensure that the review of this project through NFMS is “informal” and not formal. The basis of this is that the County will lose funding and support for the project if delayed any longer.*

For more details on the federal regulation and how it applies to the pier see Jay Gardner’s column in this issue.

Moon Monkeys

Mike Ellis, Founder

Editor/Publisher

Dale Rankin

Co-Publisher, Business Ops

Jan Park Rankin

Classifieds

Arlene Ritley

Design and Production

Augs

Business and Feature Writers

Mary Craft

Reverend Dr. Ken Ritchie

Dr. Tom Dorrell

Joey Farah

Emily Gaines

Jay “Pelican Whisperer” Gardner

Todd Hunter

Dotson Lewis

Ronnie Narmour

Dr. Ed Proffitt

Andy Purvis

Celeste Silling

Photographers

Miles Merwin (Emeritus)

Debbie Noble

Evelyn Pless-Schuberth

Delivery

Paul Nowicki

Office Security/Spillage Control (Emeritus)

Riley P. Doe

About the Island Moon

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

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

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

The Island Moon Newspaper

14646 Compass, Suite 4

Corpus Christi, TX 78418

361-949-7700

editor@islandmoon.com

Facebook: The Island Moon Newspaper

Where to Find The Island Moon

Port Aransas

Pioneer RV

Stripes on 1A

Kody’s

Coffee Waves

Moby Dicks

IGA

Treasure Island

San Juan’s Restaurant

Wash Tub

Shorty’s Place

Gratitude

The Gaff

Red’s Riviera

Sounds Good BBQ

Spanky’s Liquor

Beach Lodge

Ellis Memorial Library

Bernie’s Beach House

All Stripes Stores

Black Sheep/ Barrel

CVS

Dollar General

Doc’s Restaurant

Snoopy’s Pier

Isle Mail N More

Island Italian

Brooklyn Pie Co.

Ace Hardware

Texas Star (Shell)

Spanky’s Scuttlebutt’s Restaurant

Subway

Island Tire

Padre Pizzeria

And all Moon retail advertisers

WB Liquor

Island IGA

Island Fitness

My Coastal Home

LOCATED AT

BUY 2

SNOOPY'S

Reserve Today!

BuccaneerCruises.com

GET 1

Take a cruise aboard the Island's newest tour boat and enjoy the sights from this 50ft family friendly passenger vessel. We have a fully functional restroom and a state of the art sound system.

Buccaneer Cruises

361-742-3195

PRIVATE CHARTERS AVAILABLE

Senior Moments

Senior Moments Special to The Island Moon

By Dotson Lewis

Nuclear Testing Part 3



*Dotson's Note: India tested nuclear weapons on May 11 and 13, 1998, called "Shakti (Power) '98" at its Pokhran underground testing site. A scant two weeks later, Pakistan reacted, conducting two underground nuclear tests at its Ras Koh range. Both India and Pakistan immediately moved to announce unilateral moratoriums on nuclear testing and have conducted no nuclear tests since 1998. To read more about the 1998 tests conducted by India and Pakistan, see **The Treaty: History**. Thanks to Major Huffy and Captain Cabin (Both U.S. Army) for the facts contained in this report, and to Rick Bajornas, UP, and CTBTO, for the photos.*

The announced nuclear test by the DPRK on 9 October 2006 broke the eighth-year-long de facto moratorium and was against the letter and spirit of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty. This was followed by five more tests in 2009, 2013, and January and September of 2016, and 2017. These tests were met with near unanimous global expressions of concern. The UN Security Council strongly condemned them as clear threats to international peace and security.



Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT)

The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty bans nuclear testing everywhere on the planet — surface, atmosphere, underwater and underground. The Treaty takes on significance as it also aims to obstruct the development of nuclear weapons: both the initial development of nuclear weapons as well as their substantial improvement (e.g. the advent of thermonuclear weapons) necessitate real nuclear testing. The CTBT makes it almost impossible for countries that do not yet have nuclear weapons to develop them. And it makes it almost impossible for countries that have nuclear weapons to develop new or more advanced weapons. It also helps prevent the damage caused by nuclear testing to humans and the environment.

The Treaty Has Yet to Enter Into Force

All 44 States specifically listed in the Treaty — those with nuclear technology capabilities at the time of the final Treaty negotiations in 1996 — must sign and ratify before the CTBT can enter into force.

Of these, eight are still missing: China, DPRK, Egypt, India, Iran, Israel, Pakistan and the USA. DPRK, India and Pakistan have yet to sign the CTBT. Otherwise, as of August 2023, 186 countries have signed, of which 178 have ratified the Treaty.

The Treaty Organization

Since the Treaty is not yet in force, the Organization is called the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Organization, or CTBTO. It was founded in 1996, with approximately 260 staff from most of the CTBTO's 196 Member States. It is headed by the Executive Secretary, Dr Robert Floyd (Australia). The CTBTO's main tasks are the promotion of the Treaty and the build-up of the verification regime so that it is operational when the Treaty enters into force.

Verification Regime



It is a unique and comprehensive system. At the heart of the verification regime is the International Monitoring System (IMS), which consists of 337 facilities located all over the world that constantly monitor the planet for signs of nuclear explosions. Around 90% of these facilities are already sending data to the International Data Centre at the CTBTO headquarters in Vienna. The IMS uses the following four state-of-the-art technologies:

- Seismic: Fifty primary and 120 auxiliary seismic stations monitor shockwaves in the Earth. The vast majority of these shockwaves — many thousands every year — are caused by earthquakes. But man-made explosions such as mine explosions or the announced North Korean nuclear tests in 2006, 2009, 2013, 2016 and 2017 were also detected. The seismic data is combined with radionuclide data. Only the radionuclide technology can determine if an explosion is nuclear in origin; its stations and laboratories around the world monitor the presence of particulates and/or noble gases in the atmosphere.
- Hydroacoustic: Eleven hydrophone stations "listen" for sound waves in the oceans. Sound waves from explosions can travel extremely far underwater.
- Infrasound: 60 stations on the surface can detect ultra-low frequency sound waves (inaudible to the human ear) that are emitted by large explosions.
- Radionuclide: Eighty stations measure the atmosphere for radioactive particles, 40 of them also pick up noble gas. Only these measurements can give a clear indication as to whether an explosion detected by the other methods was actually nuclear or not. They are supported by 16 radionuclide laboratories.

On-site-Inspection



If the data from the IMS stations indicate that a nuclear test has taken place, a Member State can request for an on-site-inspection to be carried out to collect evidence that will allow the final assessment to be made regarding whether a nuclear explosion — a Treaty violation — has actually taken place. This will only be possible after the CTBT has entered into force. Large on-site inspection exercises were carried out in September 2008 in Kazakhstan and in 2014 in Jordan.

Dotson's Other Note: India conducted two underground nuclear tests, code-named "Shakti (Power) '98", on 11 and 13 May 1998 at its Pokhran underground testing site. In contrast to India's initial nuclear test in 1974, this time there were no claims that these were "peaceful tests". On the contrary, government officials were quick to emphasize the military nature of the explosions. Currently information about nuclear testing is rather scarce. FOR YOUR INFORMATION: The weekly Veterans Round Table meetings are on Thursdays 9-11AM. All veterans, their families and anyone interested in veterans' activities, are invited. The meeting location is at Del Mar College, Center for Economic Development, 3209 S. Staples. (Across from Ray High School). Also, the Veterans Radio Round Table is on the air on KEYS AM 1440 & 98.7 FM, 8 – 10 a.m., Saturdays. Please listen and call in or text. The listener/text line is: 361-882-5397. It's your two hours; please let us hear from you.



Stuff I Heard on the Island

By Dale Rankin

I was standing in line at CVS on Tuesday when I noticed a Winter Texan giving me the once over twice. I was wearing ski boots, a turtleneck, corduroy shirt, thick wool pants, a vest, and unbeknownst to the Winter Texan long johns. I detected the slightest hint of a bemused smirk, or was it a chuckle, as I noticed he was wearing a windbreaker, flip flops, and short pants. His only acknowledgment of the 28-degree weather outside was a wool watch cap. I felt a bit the fool, but then again a nice toasty fool as an Islander caught in our brief taste of winter. But that was not always the case.

Driving the snowplow...

I come by my Winter Credentials honestly after stints in New York, and Chicago, and annual sojourns to visit family in the cold outback of rural Oklahoma over the course of many decades the latest being in Tulsa during two snowy and icy winters working weekends at the CBS station where it was my job to drive to the station and tell everyone else to stay home. I lived in a lake house at the bottom of a draw on Lake Eufaula in Little Dixie and if it snowed I could drive up the hill to the highway and take my chances on the 70-mile trek to downtown Tulsa. But if it sleeted I had to park my car up the hill and walk the half-mile in the early morning darkness to get out. I quickly came to appreciate the utility of a front-wheel drive vehicle as I tried to find a pickup to follow through the two ruts in the snow up Highway 69 to Muskogee when a tap on the brakes produced only a shimmering car and a slide rather than a stop. The worst was after a day of snow followed by temperatures just above freezing then a night in the teens which produced the dreaded black ice on my early morning trip. One morning I found that a walk up the hill in the overnight ice was impossible and I channeled George Jones by firing up the riding lawnmower to reach my car as I wondered what I was doing working anywhere north of Swinney Switch.

I made the westerly turn at Muskogee onto the Broken Arrow Expressway and was making decent time at about thirty miles per hour on four lanes of foot-deep snow and this time there were no ruts except the ones I was leaving behind me on my mission to tell sane people to stay home. As the sun started to rise there was just enough light for me to see a row of four snowplows coming up behind me at a clip about twice my speed throwing up a splash of snow as wide as the highway and fifteen feet in the air. I white-knuckled it as the plow in my lane moved to my passenger side and all four went flying past me like I was standing still and suddenly my world went white. Fluffy snow completely covered all my windows and as I reached for the windshield wipers I got the sensation of spinning; which as it turned out I was. I did one ground loop and when my front bumper touched the barrier my world suddenly opened back up and I realized the impact had shaken the snow loose even as I finished by second ground loop and slid right onto the freshly plowed road surface facing forward and continued my misbegotten journey to warn everyone else to stay home. An hour later I reached the station and on the scanners heard

firefighters looking for a car on the Broken Arrow that matched the description of my own so I called dispatch and called off the search. It turned out I was the first vehicle down the Broken Arrow that day beating the first snowplows.

A frozen backflip

The station was downtown across a parking lot from the Greyhound Bus Station which was home to a rotating group of homeless folks for whom winter was a tough time. I got to know a few of them and in the early morning hours when myself and a person in the engineering department were the only people in the station I would let them come and warm up. But on this morning a man I didn't recognize appeared in the camera on the front porch and continued to lean on the buzzer and would not let up. The only thing visible were his eyeballs as the rest of him was covered with dirty clothing, plastic bags, and unidentifiable accoutrements common to the outdoor livers over at the bus station. I could smell him through the camera. He was carrying two armloads of bags numerous enough to make Liz Taylor blush and I knew that if he moved all those bags into the front lobby where there were cameras the station management would find out and I would be upstairs explaining why I let a homeless person in the front door even on a day when the temperature was in the low teens. I talked to him on the speaker and told him I couldn't let him in but if he would come around to the back door I would give him a hot cup of coffee, an offer which he steadfastly refused by demanding to be let into the building and after a bit he became rather belligerent shouting what appeared to be threats against the cars in the parking lot, one of which was mine. I knew when I did it that it was a mistake but I said...

"I will let you in if you will do a backflip off the porch." The front door sat atop five steps which like everything in Tulsa that day were covered in ice and I was counting on the impossibility of the task to end the conversation but to my astonishment and alarm he began unburdening himself of his bags to ready himself for a five-step backflip onto the frozen sidewalk. I realized he was a man with nothing to lose and he was going for it. "No, stop!" I ran out the back door of the station, slip-slid my way down 3rd Street and as I rounded the corner to my horror saw the man splayed on the sidewalk and over the curb into S. Frankfort Avenue. While preparing for a backflip he had slid down the steps and landed on one of his large bags which had broken his fall and was uninjured but not a very happy fellow. I got him up and around the back where I got him warmed up, apologized profusely and gave him twenty dollars to ease my conscience before sending him on his way. I learned my lesson in dealing with our homeless friends and thanked my lucky stars he wasn't hurt.

So as we shiver our way through a few days of winter let's all take deep breath and remind ourselves that before we know it the temperature will be back in the 60s and we'll be back building beach bonfires. Now that's worth doing a backflip over.



Riley P. does snow

Trust

Padre Island and Port Aransas' Oldest Island Based Pest Control Company.

On Padre Island Since 1994.

Locally Owned by Island Resident
Bill Schroeder

15481 SPID Just past
Whitcap on Right

949-0208

Residential and Commercial Services

Termite * Ants * Rodent * Critter * Roaches * Spiders * Fleas

Corpest

The Pest Control Professionals
OVER 30 YEAR EXPERIENCE

Marine Masters

Mobile Marine Service

Certified Technicians

- Yamaha • Honda
- Suzuki • Mercury
- Evinrude • Mariner
- Johnson • Volvo

We've been providing
quality marine repairs at
your place since 2001.

Operator Owner
Jon Reynolds

361-949-7570

361-728-1745

marinemasters@hotmail.com

Annual Island Bingo begins

Seven week run starts January 16

The annual Kiwanis Club of Corpus Christi will kick off its run of BINGO games at HardKnocks Sports Bar & Grill on Padre Island beginning January 16th at 7:00 p.m. Kiwanis BINGO offers door prizes, cash prizes, with all proceeds going to children’s charities on Padre Island, Corpus Christ, in the Coastal Bend. Bring door prizes to get your business recognized. Also, make a donation to become a co-sponsor and have you or your company mentioned weekly. The events will run January 16, 23, 30 February 6, 20, 27, and March 5. For information call Brent 361 244-7603 or John 361 779-0477.

ISAC cont. from A1

elevation of surface water resulting from a flood that has a 1% chance of equaling or exceeding that level in any given year. The higher elevation of the new homes caused flooding in dozens of existing Island homes which had never experienced flooding as the elevation of lots in new neighboring houses was raised to meet the new requirements sending rainwater onto the adjacent lots. Currently the city Unified Development Code calls for any new homes to provide an engineer-stamped plan for a drainage to prevent water from running onto adjacent lots before receiving a building permit. The city rules call for runoff from Island lots to sheet drain either to the street for dry lots, or into the adjoining canal for canal lots. However, lack of inspections by city regulators to ensure the drainage plans are adhered to prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy has been an issue due to city staffing, according to city officials who spoke to ISAC members in 2023. A report presented to the ISAC board at its November meeting by members of the

subcommittee, ISAC board members Bob Corbett (Chairman), Marvin Jones, Roy Coons, and Mike Pittman, recommended a change to the city Unified Development Code that would change the way lots under new homes handle drainage. The changes to the Unified Development Code recommended by ISAC members Tuesday are as follows:

1. The City should adopt a building standard that prohibits a slope between houses of no more than 8 degrees.
2. The City should implement inspections during the construction of infill houses to enforce the 8-degree rule.
3. The City should increase inspection of the engineered drainage plan to assure the plan is being followed.

The recommendations stopped short of requiring the use of STEM walls to raise the elevation of new homes, leaving the decision on how to meet the new standards in the hands of home builders. The final decision now moves to the Corpus Christi City Council.

Support Bipartisan Texas Transparency

By Kelley Shannon



Kelley Shannon is executive director of the nonprofit Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas, based in Austin. For more information go to www.foift.org.

To witness bipartisanship at the Texas Capitol, look to the lawmakers who are working to improve open government laws. Legislators from both political parties are igniting interest in transparency and creating the opportunity for all lawmakers to protect the people’s right to know. They’re carrying on our state’s legacy of openness. When the reform-minded 1973 Legislature enacted the Texas Public Information Act, known then as the Open Records Act, it established one of the nation’s strongest transparency laws. This year marks its 50th anniversary. Court rulings and other actions have weakened the law since its passage, but as we celebrate open government during Sunshine Month throughout March let’s rally around the bills Texas legislators have filed this session to fortify the landmark act:

Contracting transparency: Access to government contracts allows taxpayers to see how their money is spent. A bipartisan proposal enhanced a law passed in 2019, ensuring the release of “super public” information, including the overall contract price and description of items and services. Senate Bill 680 by Sen. Nathan Johnson, D-Dallas, and House Bill 2492 by Rep. Giovanni Capriglione, R-Southlake, are the bills addressing contracting transparency.

Public records business days: A definition of “business day” in the Public Information Act is needed to provide consistency for everyone seeking public records. Currently, governments declare on their own which days they are open or closed for handling TPIA requests. Sometimes they don’t respond to requests. Proposals to correct this are contained in Senate Bill 618 by Johnson; House Bill 2135 by Rep. Terry Canales, D-Edinburg; and Senate Bills 43 and 44 by Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo. Dates of birth: Birthdates in criminal justice documents, such as police reports and incarceration records, and in candidates’ applications for public office allow the public to accurately identify a person. Correctly identifying someone charged with a crime protects the reputation of those who have the same name but aren’t facing charges. A date of birth also helps with thorough vetting of political candidates. Senate Bill 46 by Zaffirini and House Bill 2309 by

Rep. Todd Hunter, R-Corpus Christi, allows access to birthdates in these records. Public records and attorneys’ fees: If a records requestor runs into roadblocks and must sue to obtain public documents, the ability to recover legal fees levels the playing field between that individual and the government, especially if a government hands over records at the last minute after months of costly litigation. This legislation is House Bill 2874 by Rep. John Smithee, R-Amarillo, and Senate Bill 2286 by Sen. Mayes Middleton, R-Galveston. Searchable-sortable records: While some governments provide data in searchable-sortable spreadsheet form, often making it easier to analyze, others do not. Senate Bill 965 by Johnson, Senate Bill 45 by Zaffirini and House Bill 2493 by Capriglione codifies the ability to obtain searchable-sortable records if such a format is available. These measures are supported by the Texas Sunshine Coalition, made up of more than 15 diverse organizations united around the principle that access to information is essential in advocating for public policy and participating in our democracy. Additional proposed transparency measures deal with public meetings, police accountability and other timely subjects. For example, when someone dies in police custody, the public needs to know what happened. Some law enforcement agencies use a loophole in the Public Information Act to withhold records. Rep. Joe Moody, D-El Paso, filed House Bill 30 to remedy the problem. Addressing public notices, Senate Bill 943 by Sen. Lois Kolkhorst, R-Brenham, and House Bill 2178 by Hunter requires government notices that by law must be published in a newspaper to also be posted at no extra cost on the newspaper’s website and on a Texas Press Association statewide public notice website. This posting through a neutral third party provides an easy, reliable source for viewing public notices. Simply put, open government is good government.

Padre Landscapes

Commercial & Residential Services
Nursery & Organics

**WINNER OF THE STATE OF TEXAS
SMALL BUSINESS AWARD**

- + Professional Landscape Design, Construction & Maintenance
- + Xeriscape and Earth Kind Solutions
- + Organic & Conventional Gardening
- + Vegetable Gardens & Hydroponics
- + Stone Work & Water Features

PadreLandscapes.com
(361) 949-6999
padrelandscapes@live.com
Nursery - 15606 SPID, Ste. B
On The Island

Owned & Operated by an Islander since 1993
Fully Insured
AIAA

History cont. from A1

the teens in South Texas and marking the coldest recorded day in state history and leaving many Islanders without power for several days. Fish kills and cold stunned turtles Freezes on The Island are marked by fish kills and cold stunned turtles which can’t function in water colder than 50 degrees and a look at the history of fish kills is congruent with freezing temperatures. Coastal fish populations suffered devastating losses during three freeze events in the 1980s, with combined estimates of more than 30 million dead fish, many in

Island canals. After a freeze in 2011 Texas Parks and Wildlife officials found the total numbers of fish impacted was above that seen during 2010 (51,000 fish killed along the mid and lower coast), 2004 (35,000 fish killed in the lower Laguna Madre) and 1997 (200,000-300,000 fish killed in the upper and lower Laguna Madre) freezes, but lower than the three freezes in the 80s (1983 and two in 1989). The 2021 freeze found 11,591 cold-stunned turtles along Texas beaches according to the Sea Turtle Stranding and Salvage Network. Dale Rankin



Canal at Encantada in 2021



Canal at Commodores and Cabana in 2021 by Diver Dave.



Frozen pipes in 2021 by Debbie Noble



Snow fell on the early stages of the dredging of Packery Channel on Christmas Eve 2004.

Packery cont. from A1

forward as officers from Texas Parks and Wildlife begin enforcement and according to information presented to ISAC members Tuesday photos of wake-making boats can be sent to officials at Texas Parks and Wildlife and tickets can be issued. The City of Corpus Christi has also budgeted for a new boat to be used for enforcement, according to information presented to ISAC members on Tuesday. The Island Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone #2 (TIRZ #2) also has funds earmarked for patrolling Packery Channel but has not been in operation for several years. Extension of the No Wake Zone would need approval of the Corpus Christi City Council to take effect.



PadreBoatTours.com

Cruises aboard the Island’s new 35-foot tour boat now available!

Call 361-252-1510 for reservations or go to Padreboat tours.com

Individual and group rates available

Go to Padre Boat Tours on Facebook!



Since 1991

WATER CHEMISTRY
ipssa
CERTIFIED

Atlantis
Pool and Spa
Quality you can swim in!
(361) 563-7665 or (361) 949-8899

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
Weekly Pool & Spa Maintenance * Repairs & Renovations
Island Resident
Shouldn't you be saying, "It's time to relax. My pool is ready."
Call Atlantis For All Your Pool Needs

www.atlanticorpus.com

NPC
NATIONAL POOL CARE ASSOCIATION

Sports

Sports Talk Special to The Island Moon



By Dotson Lewis

The 25 Best Games in College Football-Part 2

Dotson's Note: As I wrote last week, in College Football you never know what is going to happen. That makes this sport, however as wild it may be at times with the way it is played, so much fun. The following are, according to some, the best games in the history of college football. Thanks to Bill Morgan and Ben Kercheval for the facts contained in this report and to Bill Morgan for the photos.



19. Florida State 24, Florida 21

Nov. 30, 1996: In addition to Miami, Florida and Florida State played in some high-stakes games throughout their history. In the 1990s, with Steve Spurrier and Bobby Bowden on the sidelines, few games were more intriguing. Both teams entered their 1996 game undefeated with the Gators ranked No. 1 and the Seminoles No. 2. Though Florida State jumped out to an early lead, Florida crawled back behind the arm of eventual Heisman winner Danny Wuerffel. Though Florida State hung on for a 24-21 win, the two teams would face each other again in a rematch in the Sugar Bowl. The result was an easy 52-20 win for the Gators.

18. USC 34, Notre Dame 31

Affectionately—or, perhaps, bitterly in South Bend, Indiana—referred to as the “Bush Push” game, Notre Dame and USC staged a classic during the Trojans’ 2005 BCS championship game run. With its 27-game win streak on the line, USC found itself down 31-28 to the Irish in a back-and-forth game. In fact, three touchdowns were scored in the final 5:04. With only seconds remaining, Trojans quarterback Matt Leinart attempted to run the ball in himself for a game-winning touchdown. Though he came up short, head coach Pete Carroll managed to get seven seconds put back on the game clock. The very next play, instead of spiking the ball, Leinart squirmed his way into the end zone with a little help from Heisman-winning running back Reggie Bush. “I used all 200 pounds of my body to push Matt in,” said Bush after the game, per the Associated Press.

17. Nebraska 35, Oklahoma 31

Nov. 25, 1971 A handful of games claim to be the “The Game of the Century,” but one stands out above the rest: Nebraska vs. Oklahoma in 1971. In the old Big Eight days, this was a classic No. 1 vs. No. 2 battle that couldn’t be missed. Though the ending wasn’t as dramatic as it could have been, the contest lived up to the billing. It was a close game between two storied programs. Easily, the defining moment was Johnny Rodgers’ punt return for a 72-yard touchdown.

16. Appalachian State 34, Michigan 32

Sept. 2, 2007: *Sports Illustrated* once called it the «greatest upset of them all,” and, well, it’s not wrong. Yes, this was the beginning of the end of the Lloyd Carr era at Michigan. Yes, Appalachian was an excellent FCS team. Still, no one could have predicted what was going to transpire on that fateful September afternoon. It was supposed to be an easy win for fifth-ranked Michigan and a money game for the Mountaineers. Instead, Appalachian State took a 28-17 halftime lead. A Michigan rally looked like it would end all chances of the Mountaineers coming away with the upset, but a blocked field goal in the final seconds completed one of the most improbable wins of all time.

15. Harvard 29, Yale 29



Nov. 23, 1968 There was a time when the Ivy League was at the center of the college football universe. In the core of that universe was Harvard-Yale. One of the most memorable games from that series ended in a tie of all things. This is one of the few times where one team actually “won” a tie. Later, the draw between Harvard and Yale in 1968 would be known as “Harvard beats Yale 29-29.” That’s because the Crimson would score 16 points in the final 42 seconds to avoid the loss to their longtime rival. Yale was on a 16-game winning streak and entered the game nationally ranked in the AP poll.

14. LSU 33, Kentucky 30

Nov. 9, 2002: Talk about a heartbreaker. Down 30-27 to Kentucky on the road, LSU needed a miracle. The Tigers got one in the form of a Hail Mary—a deflected pass from quarterback Marcus Randall that was caught by Devery Henderson for a 74-yard score. The thing was, Kentucky had already celebrated by dousing head coach Guy Morriss in a Gatorade bath. Following the touchdown, Wildcats fans rushed the field, thinking they had won—but they hadn’t. The Bluegrass Miracle was official.

13. BYU 46, SMU 45



Dec. 19, 1980: There was a time when the Holiday Bowl was a huge game—and when BYU and SMU were national powers. All of those elements came together in a perfect storm-type of way in the 1980 edition of the Holiday Bowl, considered one of the best comebacks ever in college football. The Mustangs had the backfield of Eric Dickerson and Craig James; the Cougars had quarterback Jim McMahon. With SMU up 45-25 with four minutes remaining, McMahon led the Cougars to 21 straight points thanks to three touchdown passes, one onside kick and a blocked punt. To this day, it’s one of the most improbable comebacks ever in college football.

12. Florida 31, Florida State 31

Nov. 26, 1994: Yep, we have more Sunshine State rivalry goodness on this top-25 countdown. This time, it’s the 1994 edition of the game between Florida and Florida State, known as “The Choke at Doak.” FSU overcame a 31-3 deficit with a 28-point fourth-quarter rally to tie Florida, which at the time tied the NCAA record for biggest comeback. Like the 1996 meeting, the two sides would meet in a rematch in the Sugar Bowl. Though FSU couldn’t complete the comeback for a win in the regular season, it picked up where it left off in the bowl game. The Seminoles beat the Gators in New Orleans 23-17.

TO BE CONTINUED

Dotson's Other Note: This week there are 8 games, with 11 through 1 to go. Surprisingly, all of you Moon Monkeys have been quiet so far. Are all of you in agreement? If not, suggestions are welcome.



That Our Flag Was Still There

By Andy Purvis

I’m an American, red, white and blue. My father could be Ted Williams, my grandfather John Wayne and my great-grandfather George Washington. I love this country, its history and all it stands for. But take it from a guy who attends a lot of games in person, I really dislike what has happened to our National Anthem. I’m not talking about the words, they are truly inspiring, but the singing of the Anthem itself. I think the Anthem is sung far too often and mostly by unqualified people who have no business making a mockery of this song. I can promise you that Francis Scott Key never intended for this to happen. He was not watching the Yankees and Red Sox when he penned these lyrics.

Our Anthem was written during a time of war, from the bow of a British ship, as Key, a British prisoner, watched the British bombard U. S. Fort McHenry located in Baltimore, Maryland. The United States military raised a huge American flag on September 14, 1814, to signify their victory over the bombardment. It was this vision of our flag, waving through the smoke and brimstone, in the aftermath, which inspired Key. If you know the history, then the words make sense. You see, our National Anthem represents us and all those people who came before us. It’s sung so often now that it doesn’t seem to mean anything to the public. Some people don’t stand, others fail to remove their hats, and virtually no one places their hand over their heart as we were all taught in school. Even fewer sing along, and you get the feeling that people simply dread this part of the pre-game ceremonies. Could this be why so many fans arrive late to the game? Maybe they don’t want to stand through the Anthem again. You would think that people would get used to singing the Anthem as they do “Take me out to the Ballgame” or their favorite college fight song, but they don’t. Why, because it’s never sung the same way. It’s quite a long song and very difficult to sing. Most amateurs and some pros start off singing with too high a pitch and end up with nowhere to go at the end of the song. They either run out breath, range or both. I would rather not hear it sung at all than hear it sung badly. I think we need to hold a contest to qualify

singers for the National Anthem and only sing it before championship games, July 4th and special military events. Have you ever noticed that you never hear the Anthem played or sung before a game on television or radio unless it’s a championship game like the World Series or Super Bowl? Sponsors would rather run another commercial. Kate Smith’s “God Bless America” is a great song and much easier to sing. Could it be used instead? There was a time when no songs were sung before a sporting event. Remember the old movies where the umpire points to the pitcher and hollers, “Play ball”? That was it.

The National Anthem started being sung at ballparks during the 1918 World Series between the Red Sox and Cubs at Comiskey Park. As American troops readied themselves to attack the Saint-Mihiel salient at the Western front in Europe, Game One of the Series was about to begin. When over 19,000 fans stood for the seventh-inning stretch, the band broke into the tune of “The Star Spangled Banner,” and fans began to sing. As the song continued, more fans joined in singing and ended the song with a thunderous applause. Through their singing, they felt they were supporting our troops overseas, fighting for democracy during World War I. It’s interesting to point out that “The Star Spangled Banner” would not become our National Anthem until 1931, but as of that afternoon, it would continue to be an integral part of the game of baseball.

Remember this is the National Anthem of the United States of America, and it commands the same respect that you demand as an American. The Bill of Rights, The Declaration of Independence and this song are the ties that bind all Americans. Don’t take them for granted. P.S., Shame on you if you don’t know the words.

Andy Purvis
KSIX SportsradioCC 1230 AM & 95.1 FM
Purvisbooks.com
Purvis.andy@mygrande.net

JFK update from TxDOT

Contractors are scheduled to resume overlay work on travel lanes of the JFK Causeway bridge.

This work will require various, alternating, single-lane closures through the end of February. One travel lane in both directions will always remain open through the duration of the overlay work. The continuous, single-lane closures are a necessary part of the construction operation. Message boards are alerting drivers to the work and the 24-hour, single-lane closures.

This work is part of the \$9 million maintenance project designed to maximize the life of the bridge and to reduce the overall life-cycle costs of the bridge. The project is focused on the main span of the bridge and includes repair to the substructure, superstructure, and railing. Also, existing armor joints and bearing pads are being replaced and, lastly, a new overlay travel surface will be applied to the bridge.



JFK Bridge Construction

ServiceMASTER Clean®

24 Hour
Emergency Service

Carpet Cleaning
Air Duct Cleaning
Upholstery Cleaning

Tile & Wood Cleaning
Fire & Water Damage
Restoration

Call for our Daily Specials
361-993-9300

book online at www.servicemaster-tx.com


www

Show us your stuff!

Send photos and letters to editor@IslandMoon.com





Island Outdoors

On the Rocks



By Jay Gardner

I heard the other day that there was some kerfuffle at commissioners court regarding Bob Hall pier and the permitting that has to be re-initiated. The previous county judge had it worked out with the head of USACE in Galveston for a letter of permission that did not include formal consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), but changes in the design that were requested by the community caused the design to be re-evaluated by the USACE. In doing so, the USACE project manager initiated formal NMFS consultation. The difference between informal and formal consultation is around an inch and a half stack of reports and 6 months, and three inches of reports and 18-24 months, maybe longer.

One of the confounding issues is that recently the NMFS designated critical habitat for their endangered species of concern, mainly the green sea turtle and giant manta rays in coastal waters (to be sure, there are other species, but let's stick with these two for now) You loyal readers know that I wrote about this a few months ago, but now we have a real world example that I can point to; Bob Hall Pier.

So, during the construction of the pier, there will be heavy equipment in the water, and they will be driving piling into the sand with a crane and percussive hammer blows. This will create a potential hazard for any turtles or rays in the area by encountering heavy equipment. In addition, the sound underwater is magnified and carries a long way – driving piles could actually damage these species if they are in the immediate area. This necessitates NMFS to coordinate with the applicant (and contractor) to include specific conservation measures to prevent injury to these animals. This could include methods such as putting nets around the work area to exclude these species from coming into the work area, or changing the proposed method of piling installation in to jetting them in with water instead of pounding them in. The issue is that the NMFS is so back logged, that it may be two years to get the final go ahead from them. This jeopardizes funding sources that have a short fuse on them; spend them or lose them.

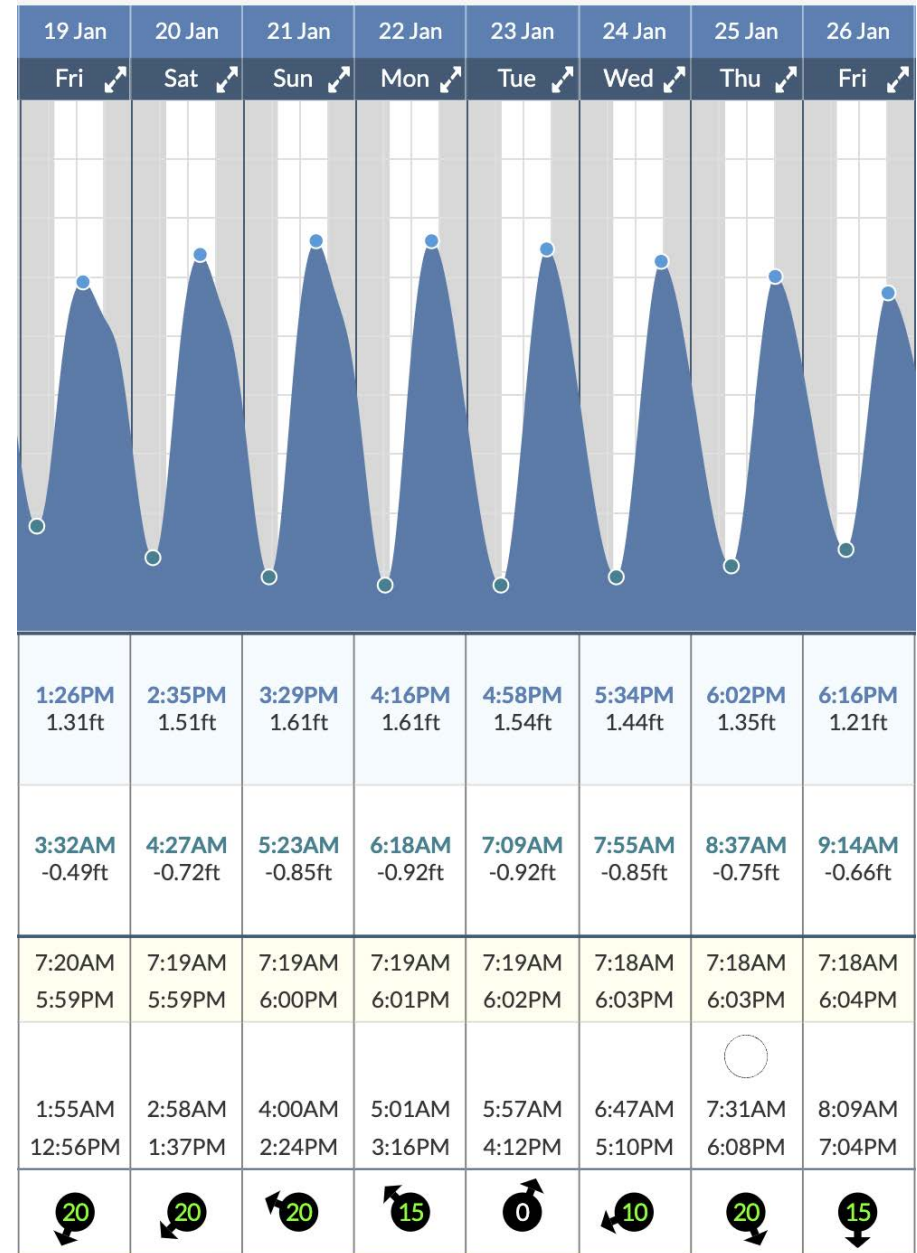
You all know that I do these types of things for a living, and I will be honest with you, these long processing times for permits is starting to make me second guess my career choices. And consultants aren't the only ones; for example, TPWD has permit applications for restoring oyster reefs in Texas bays that are caught up in the permitting process as well – and guess where? You can get online at <https://noaa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index> and see that the entire Island is covered in the layers for green sea turtle and

giant manta rays. That means that almost any project that deals with wetlands will have to go through this process. Two years is a long time to wait for just a portion of the permitting process. Hopefully they can get Bob Hall Pier back on track, or it may be starting over from scratch. And have mercy on the rest of us as we try and move forward with other projects.

The ISAC meeting was held the other day at the Seashore Middle School academy (thanks again Denise!) and we got some great updates from the city. We want to thank all Islanders who requested soccer goals at Billish park, and assistant city parks Director Sergio for actually locating some goals and getting them heading that way. Hopefully in a week or so, they will be on site. Bryan Gulley also mentioned that we need to get our hands back around the TIRZ #2 projects now that it's been renewed and picking up steam again. There are some new projects that have been selected and moved onto the Capitol Improvement Plan (CIP), but there are still some that are hanging fire as Dale says. One is the bathroom/lifeguard facility on Zahn Road. We saw some drawings for that facility a couple of meetings ago, provided feedback, and supposedly they are being finalized.

The other area that I continue to write about is the Packery Channel boat ramp area, which dates back to the "Six-pack" days from 2005 when Packery was being built. Way back in the day, there were supposed to be some ADA boat docks installed there for folks to get on their boats safely. In addition, everyone knows that the boat ramps are too steep at the top, and you can't get a boat over 23 feet over the lip and into the water without scraping your trailer. That's really frustrating to have a boat ramp at the base of the jetties that was built for offshore boats that offshore boats can't use. That needs to be fixed. Plus, there is the matter of the water line that needs to be run over to the pavilion and to the fish cleaning station that was donated by SEA. Staff assured us that some of these items are being addressed, but they need to actually get on the CIP. I need to get the TIRZ #2 subcommittee and Area Development Plan (ADP) committees fired up again as well to ensure that the city doesn't forget about these projects that were promised to the public. Well folks, sorry I went a touch over this week, I'm just trying to keep you informed on why things take so long to actually get built and accomplished. Your suspicions are true; it's red tape. Hopefully y'all didn't lose too many plants and pipes in the freeze, I'm still waiting for the big thaw to turn my water back on. Drop me a line at tarponchaser@mail.com and I'll see you next week On the Rocks.

Tides of the Week



Backwater Adventures



By Joey Farah
Farah's Fishing Adventures



IF you can wear shorts and a Jacket out on the boat then it's warm enough to catch mature gamefish in the shallows. Follow the sun! Big Yellow Mouth for a sunny winter day along the North Shoreline of Baffin with a PURPLE REIGN DOWN SOUTH LURE.



Winter time is the best time to catch big redfish as they drop off of the shallow flats into channels and holes with the lowest tides. This one ate a natural eel collided DOWN SOUTH SUPER MODEL.



*Eric Ozolins with a nice winter time Trout! 29.5 inches!
Photo courtesy of Eric Ozolins.*

Show us your stuff!

Send photos and letters to editor@IslandMoon.com

Around cont. from A1

Texans but we can call one subset a *group of Beltsanders* because if there is one thing we know for sure it is that our Winter Texan friends like their belt sander racing.

ISAC meeting

There were a couple of pieces of news that came out of the ISAC meeting this week other than those included in stories in this issue. The first came from the city staff who report that the plan to connect the canal under the Don Patricio Bridge to the PIPOA canals is moving forward and the water expected to be flowing “by mid-February.” The city is currently developing plans for work on city-owned bridges which is estimated to cost more than \$1 million with the money coming from The Island TIRZ #2. They also reported that plans for the devel-

opment of Commodores Park will be ready for public review in the next two months. There was also a reminder that the current dredging project in Packery Channel may not produce enough beach-quality sand to completely renourish the beach along the seawall. The next step will be to identify an offshore location to harvest beach sand. That’s all for now everybody. We’ll be back in the 70s by mid-week and we encourage all our Winter Texan friends to take a selfie to send back to your shivering friends shoveling snow in the Great Frozen North, and while you’re at it send us some Winter Texas photos here at the Word Factory so we can share them with readers. It’s a good time to be here on our little sandbar so say hello if you see us Around The Island.



*The Winter Texas were out in force at last week’s BELT SANDER RACES at the Gaff.
Photo by Ronnie Narmour*



*My Grandson Enjoying Sunset Time By
Michelle Renee Walters*



Because the veins also cool the arteries, the bird’s feet are closer to environmental temperature and thus don’t lose as much heat as they would if they were at body temperature. And by standing on one leg, a bird reduces by half the amount of heat lost through unfeathered limbs. Egrets, herons and mourning doves grow special feathers that disintegrate into a powder that they use to waterproof their feathers. Regardless of what weatherproofing method they use, preening helps birds keep a water resistant top layer and a toasty warm inner layer. Photo by Riekie Roncinske



The Texas Gold Rush By LuAnn Kingsbury



PADRE
DERMATOLOGY
& Skin Cancer Center

Island Owned and operated
Physician staffed office
Fellowship trained Mohs surgeon
Double Board Certified
in Dermatology and
Mohs Micrographic Surgery

14650 Compass St Ste 1
Corpus Christi, TX 78418
361-867-1032
www.padrederm.com

Accepts Medicare United, Humana, BCBS, WellMed
Reasonable Cash Pay and Out of Network rates

New and Existing patients call to schedule
Existing patients, we still have all old records available.

Going Native

Native cont. from A1

ty although a couple of other species can be found if you really poke around. Our lab studies their colonization, growth, and interaction with salt marsh plants – which in general they “shade out” when mangrove canopy closes.

Our study sites, we call them Sentinel Sites because it sounds cooler, range from Boca Chica across the street from SpaceX up to Port O’Connor in the north. We’ve also been known to range further north in “data gathering excursions” up through Galveston to Texas Point by the Louisiana border. As you might surmise, we record a range of sizes and abundances along this latitudinal cold gradient. And, as you probably guessed, during these polar outbreaks of frigid weather, we find a range of effects. The “big freeze” was, of course, the night of February 14-15, 2021 which I like to call the St. Valentine’s Day Mangrove Massacre. Minimum temperatures ranged from -5 C or 23 F at Boca Chica (producing little adverse impacts to shrubs but reducing reproduction for a couple of years), to -10.5 C or 13 F at Port O’Connor (about 95% mangrove mortality). In Corpus Christi Bay area temperatures varied from about -6.5 C to -7.7 C producing a range of effects. It’s not all about the minimum temperature though, but also if a second hard freeze occurs within a year or two. For example, after the 2021 freeze there was a milder -3.5 C hard freeze in December 2022. Max Portmann, one of our graduate students, found that some of his tagged shrubs that’d survived the much colder 2021 freeze died in the not as harsh 2022 freeze. This suggests that weakened but recovering mangroves experience cumulative effects, which hasn’t been documented previously. So, how about our 2024 freeze that was more similar to temperatures in 2022 (and another polar outbreak in 2018-19!) than to the St Valentine’s Day Mangrove Massacre freeze. Well, we’ll let you know after we go record some data! But, more cumulative effects wouldn’t surprise me.

Post 2021, the mangrove populations have been rebounding, although more rapidly at some sites than others – even within Corpus Christi Bay area. Two aspects of population biology are strong contributors to this recovery. First, mangroves that survive begin to re-grow rapidly from the base of the plant, some growing several feet in the first year. But, all their energy is put into that growth, and they don’t reproduce. However, there is some reproduction the second year and more the third. Plus, seedlings that recruit can grow to “first reproduction” in 1 to 2 years. You will perhaps recall from a previous column that these mangroves don’t have a true seed (that

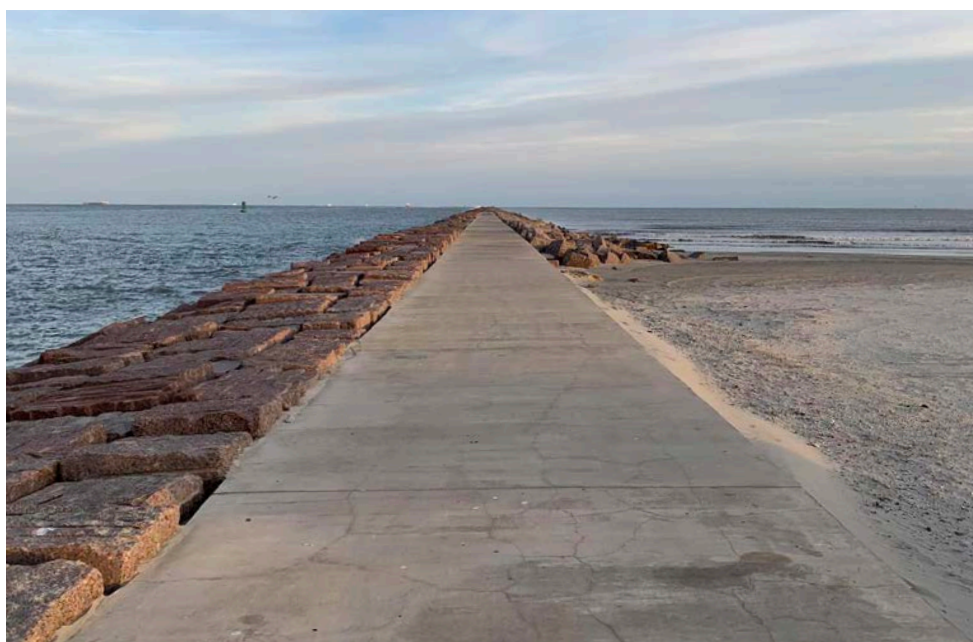


Black Mangrove Propagules

by botanical definition requires a “resting stage” and the mangrove flower to fruit to propagule progression has none). Thus, there is no potential for a “seed bank” as we find for many higher plants that persists for years in the soil and then a seedling “pops up” when conditions permit. So, where did the seedlings that colonized soon after the 2021 killing freeze come from? They came from what our lab terms a “floating seed bank.” That is, propagules that were dropped in November through January when they were mature float around in the Bay and eventually wash in to the intertidal zone. In 2021, those propagules that washed in and sprouted before the February freeze died, but those that washed up after the freeze successfully colonized and found more nutrient resources available as dead mangroves began to decompose.

Another of our graduate students, Sophia Hoffman, conducted an experiment in a growth chamber and found that the propagules (prior to producing roots and shoots) can withstand very cold temperatures. She had 20% survival at -8 C. (17.6 F). So, the floating seed bank is one way for the population to begin recovering rapidly.

Now, however, we’ve been experiencing low reproduction as plants recover from 2021 and 2022 hard freezes. They’re reproducing, but there’s fewer “adult” plants and they’re still smaller than pre-2021, and they’re still putting a lot of energy into growth of new shoots, leaves, and roots. So, we’re finally seeing a moderate level of reproduction this year (Fall 2023) but nothing remotely like the massive numbers of propagules before the 2021 freeze. So, will propagules that washed in and recruited before our freeze of the last few days make it, or not. Our lab will be tracking this interesting plant population question, and we’ll let you know. Until then, keep going native.



No one wants to fish in this weather By Tom Tuberville



" DELIVERY | CURBSIDE
" DINE-IN OR CARRYOUT
" WINE WED. HALF PRICE
" CAULIFLOWER CRUST PIZZA
" GLUTEN-FREE PIZZA
" LOCAL DRAFT BEER

14493 SPID SUITE C

PADREPIZZERIA.COM

949.0787



TRY OUR DESSERT SELECTIONS WITH
A GLASS OF YOUR FAVORITE WINE!



Business Briefs

By Mary Craft
mkay512@aol.com

Monster Golf is coming to the Bluff where Bealls and the Spirit Shop were located. The glow-in-the-dark 18 hole mini golf course will be populated with animated "Monsters" that move, talk and at times tell silly jokes. There will also be video game arcade with prize center, laser tag, bowling, virtual reality and food. A building permit was issued mid-December so things are definitely underway.



Beach Bums Bar in Port A next to Tarpon Inn will be opening on Thursday, February 1st. They transformed a convenience store into a beautiful fun decor bar. There will be dart boards, a pool table, legal skill games, live music and karaoke.



Gulf Coast Racing that once had live greyhound racing and since that ended had simulcast horse and dog races has closed. There are only two dog tracks left in the country and those are in West Virginia. In Texas now simulcast race betting is only allowed in person at an actual horse race track. There are three tracks in the state.

V Mart is a newly constructed Asian Market at 3809 Airline. The approximately 15,000 square foot building has every Asian product imaginable plus regular staples. It has a food court with a huge buffet that is open Thursday - Sunday noon - 7 pm. The market opens daily at 9:30 am.



Hardknocks Sports Grill is offering Super Bowl table reservations for \$40 that includes an appetizer. Bar seats are \$10. The game is on Sunday, February 11th at 5:30 pm.

In the Game Funtrackers in the Bluff now has 7-D theater with three different movies. It has moving seats that bank left and right, tilt backwards or shake depending on what is going on in the movie. It also has sensory experiences like wind as you go on an interactive journey. There is also surround sound to make it even more realistic. There are four seats and the cost is \$8. The movies last 6 - 8 minutes.

The Island ArtWalk will be at Billish Park on Saturday, March 9th 10 am - 3 pm on the second Saturday of the month through the warm months. They expect more than 40 vendors of arts & crafts, food, home decor and other unique items. The CATS Express train will be there to offer rides around the park. If you would like to be a vendor contact CaT.S. Markets UNA.



The Texas A&M Corpus Christi Islanders basketball team won the Southland Conference Championship last year and went to the Dance. They have two conference home games coming up at the American Bank Center. On Saturday, January 20th 3:30 they play Nicholls and on Monday 6 pm they play McNeese.

Larry Joe Taylor and Richard Leigh will be at the Third Coast Theater in Port A on Saturday, February 24th 8 pm. This show at this intimate music venue always sells out so get your tickets early. The cost is \$40.

Padre Dermatology now has a Medi Spa with their experienced licensed aesthetician. Some of the services provided are fillers, laser hair removal, chemical peels, refresher skin tightening, Bela MD custom facials, dysport and microneedling. They are located at 14650 Compass Street Suite 1. Call 361-867-1032 for appointment.

The 2nd Annual Soup'er Bowl Contest will be held at the Pelican Lounge on Sunday, February 11th. If you wish to participate call Alice at 537-7734 with your choice of soup. No duplicate soups so call early to get your favorite in. Soup must be in a crockpot and include a ladle. There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Deadline is February 4th.

The American Legion Post 229, the Islander Post meets at the Island Italian Restaurant monthly. They are hosting a "Salute to Service

2024" dinner, concert featuring Jake Bush and Ty Dietz and silent/live auction on Saturday, January 20th 6 pm at Marker 37 Marina. Some of the auction items include a helicopter hog hunt, a private dinner by Chef Gail Huesmann, and offshore fishing trip. General admission tickets are \$35. More information about the event, sponsorship packages, donation opportunities or tickets can be found at: salutetoservice2024.betterworld.org.

Fire Station #15 on the Island gives kids a look at the equipment, ladder truck and brush truck at any time. I dropped by with my 4 year old grandson Benji and the firemen there were so good with him. Benji got to hold an actual fire hose and he got lifted up into the cabin of the ladder truck. They even turned on the lights and revved up the engine while he was there. All the fire stations here interact with the community in this way.



The Padre Island Rotary Club next meeting will be Tuesday, January 23rd 5:30 pm in the Hardknocks back meeting room. Stop by if you would like to become a member of this great organization.

Random Stuff

Hormel Black Label Bacon is my favorite because it comes out crispy and tastes the same as pan-fried. Plus its the least messy because you don't put strips on a paper towel it comes in a pouch of four strips on paper.

Let's Celebrate. Sunset this weekend is at 6 pm.



The Moon Monkey takes on Booty Call at the Gaff's BELT SANDER RACES last Saturday.



The Dredge outflow hard at work. Photo: Evelyn Pless-Schuberth



Sea Star By Nicole Scofield

VOTE KRISTI BRITT MARCH 5TH - FOR A SAFER COMMUNITY



KRISTI 2024 BRITT
FOR NUECES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

"Throughout my time as a prosecutor, I have successfully protected our citizens. As a Mother and Grandmother, I share your concerns. As your next D.A. the soft on crime policies are O V E R. It's time for change."

A LEADER DEDICATED TO PROTECTING THE CITIZENS OF NUECES COUNTY

POL. ADV. PAID FOR BY THE KRISTI BRITT CAMPAIGN. PO BOX 1473, CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS 78403. www.ElectKristiBritt.com



ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL
HAPPY TRAILS TOUR

LIVE AT BREWSTER STREET FEB 9TH, 2024

EARLY SHOW
RESERVED SEATING & TABLES AVAILABLE



FOR TICKETS, SCAN QR OR VISIT BREWSTERSTREET.NET



Our Services:

- DECK AND DOCK BUILD OUTS
- DECK AND DOCK REPAIRS
- BOAT LIFT SERVICES
- PILING SERVICES
- RETAINING WALLS

Our Contact:
361-230-3406
721 Nas Dr.
Corpus Christi, TX 78418



Are You Ready For The Next Hurricane?

Storm?
Freeze?
Tornado?
Grid Failure?



Call Us
361-782-6329

generator SUPERCENTER **GENERAC**

GeneratorSupercenterOfCorpusChristi.com



COLDWELL BANKER ISLAND ESCAPES

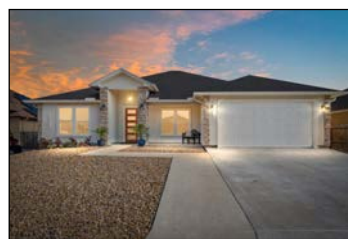
14945 S. Padre Island Dr., Corpus Christi, TX 78418

361.949.7077 or 800.580.7077

www.cbir.com

COLDWELL BANKER
ISLAND ESCAPES

Selling Padre Island since 1986



15806 Gypsy 4/3/2 plus bonus room @ 2364 sq.ft. Water softener, whole house carbon water filter, outdoor water/gas connection, shutters, and gutters. **\$519,900**
Randy Corpuz 361-765-9914



15018 Aruba Dr. 4/3.5/1 Rare island find! An attached half-plex, fully furnished, sleeps 16. Shares an inground concrete heated pool. **\$599,900** Call **Charlie Knoll** 361-443-2499



15022 Aruba Dr. 5/3 Rare island find! An attached half-plex, fully furnished, sleeps 16. Shares an inground concrete heated pool. **\$599,900** Call **Charlie Knoll** 361-443-2499



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



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



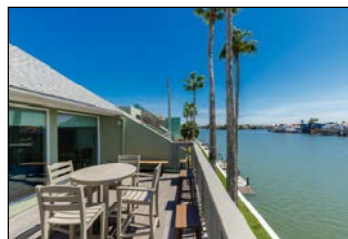
14010 Eaglesnest Bay 3/2.5/2 + bonus/flex room at 2,142 sq.ft. Open plan, new roof & HVAC in 2017. All new hurricane windows, 3M water treatment system. Large backyard w/room for a pool. **\$459,900**
Randy Corpuz 361-765-9914.



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



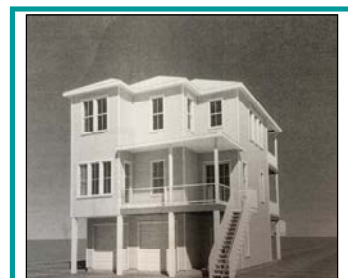
13965 Lanyard 4/3/2 2,502 sq.ft., stainless appliances, quartz & tile throughout plus lots of extras. **\$583,000**. Call **Randy Corpuz** 361-765-9914 or **Charlie Knoll** 361-443-2499.



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



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



350 Royal Dunes
New Port Aransas Beach House in Mustang Royale built by Steve's homes.
3200 sq. ft.
3 story with 4 bedrooms,
2 full & 2 half baths,
2 living areas, 2 car garage,
covered patio,
3 balconies with amazing
views, impact windows.

SHORT TERM RENTALS ALLOWED.

Great primary or vacation home. Onsite pool, boardwalk to beach. **\$1,700,000**
Call **Cindy Molnar** at **361-549-5557**, for more details.



14905 & 14911 Packery View Loop Fully furnished townhomes each sleeps 10, located a short walk to the beach or relax at the pool just out your door! Now priced at **\$420,000** each. Call 361-563-6641.



Palm Bay Village #701 1 bedroom/1 bath, fully furnished, beautifully updated, located less than a mile from the beach. **\$275,000**. **Kim Mogford** 361-434-8522.



15005 Windward Dr. #216 Fully furnished 2 bed, 1 bath, 955 sq ft. Cozy courtyard view and walking distance from beach access. **\$299,900** Call **Charlie Knoll** 361-443-2499.



4118 Claudia Dr Selling "AS-IS" Ready for renter. Fresh paint & fridge, stove & washer/dryer. 3/1/1 1/2 blocks from Lookout restaurant. Easy to show. **\$185,000** **Tinker Boos** at 361-563-6641.

New Homes Available by Steve's Homes



1910 Great Falls
4/3.5/3
\$845,000



Open Sundays
1:00 PM — 3:00 PM

13841 Hawksnest Bay Dr.
4/3/3
\$599,900



15230 Capstan
4/3/2 Pool size lot
\$589,900



15886 Punta Espada
4/3/2 Waterfront
\$1,095,000

Let Steve's Homes build your Custom Dream Home on your lot!

Call **Cindy Molnar** 361-549-5557



COLDWELL BANKER
ISLAND ESCAPES

Looking for Professional Long Term Property Management Services?

361.949.2131 877.269.2131

www.rentpadreisland.com

Ready to Lease Your Property?

Our services include:

- Tenant Qualifying
- Collections of Rents
- Coordinating Repairs & Maintenance
- Professional Itemize Monthly Statements
- Marketing/Advertising

Looking for Long Term Rental Property?

14858 Granada #203
3/2/1 townhome
Waterfront complex
\$2,250/month

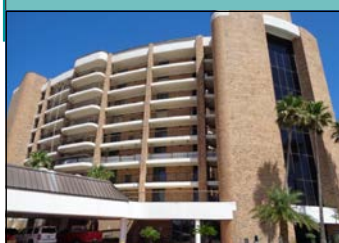
15422 Salt Cay D
1/1 waterfront
\$1100 month

3813 Holland
4/3/2
\$2200 month

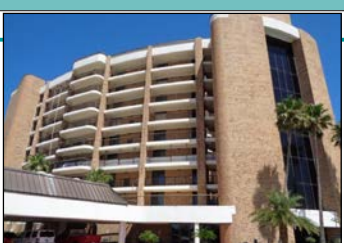
15325 Mutiny
3/2.5/2 Waterfront
\$2700 month

13906 Mingo Cay #6
2/2
waterfront complex
\$1,350 /month

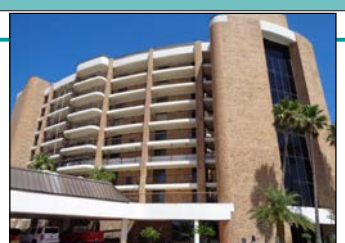
14506 Verdemar
3/2.5/2
\$2,800 /month



Aransas Princess #413 Incredible views, 2+den, upgrades, floor to ceiling windows, & STR allowed. Great investment properties. **\$590,000** Call **Charlene** 361-244-2344 or **Carrie** 361-949-5200 **MLS#397083**



Aransas Princess #412 Incredible views, 2+den, impact floor to ceiling windows, & STR allowed. Great investment properties. **\$510,000** Call **Charlene** 361-244-2344 or **Carrie** 361-949-5200 **MLS#430124**



Aransas Princess #308 Incredible views, 2+2, impact floor to ceiling windows, & STR allowed. Great investment properties. **\$405,000** Call **Charlene** 361-244-2344 or **Carrie** 361-949-5200 **MLS#427437**



Beach Club #380 1/1, Beautifully furnished, great rental. Walk to the beach. Heated pool, hot tub, & gym. Water view. **\$250,000** Call **Carrie** at 361-949-5200



Beach Club #382 1/1, Upgraded, new flooring, paint, granite. Great investment. Walk to beach. Heated pool, water view. **\$245,000** Call **Carrie** at 361-949-5200

FINDING THE IDEAL PROPERTY
FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY
TO ENJOY WHILE YOU EXPLORE
ALL THE TEXAS GULF COAST
HAS TO OFFER
SINCE 2013



361-949-0430 info@padreesapes.com



PADRE
Escapes

Yard of the Month



Sandhill Cranes By Kevin Sims



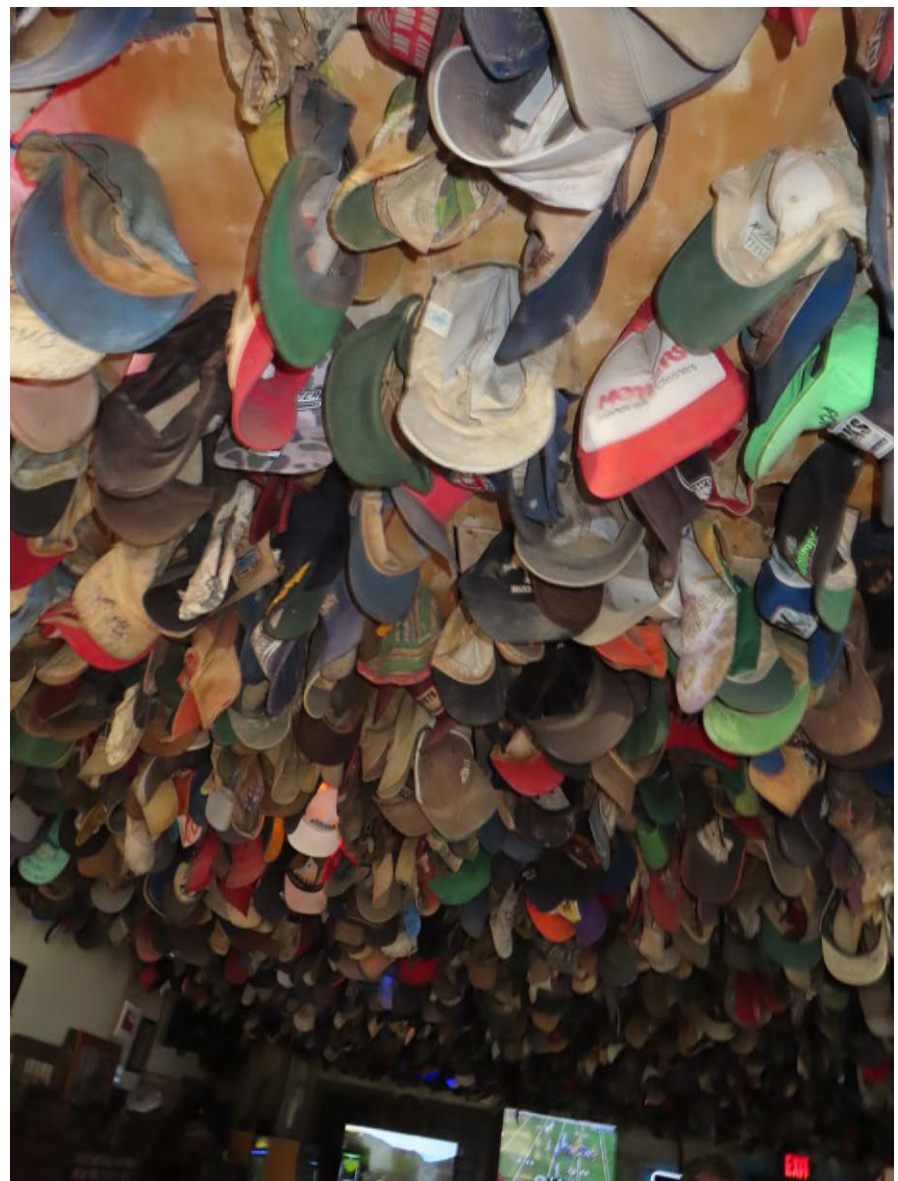
No watering this lawn! Bright green and maintenance free Astro turf covers the front and back yard. The Island Gardeners chose Sarah and Jimmy Pena's home at 13813 Halyard for January's Yard of the Month. A good selection of blooming plants are in beds and pots. The well planned hard scape and patio add to the lush landscape. Photo By Karen Easton



Bollard buddies doing their job on a freezing day. By Bruce Wiepert



Cooper's Hawk - a medium-sized hawk of the woodlands. Feeding mostly on birds and small mammals, it hunts by stealth, approaching its prey through dense cover and then pouncing with a rapid, powerful flight. Of the three bird-eating Accipiter hawks, Cooper's is the mid-sized species and the most widespread as a nesting bird south of Canada. Photo By Riekke Roncinske



Shorty's hats. Photo by Ronnie Narmour

WHITECAP
NORTH PADRE ISLAND

ARTIST'S CONCEPTUAL RENDERING

NOW PREVIEWING

A DESTINATION COMMUNITY
LIKE NO OTHER

SALES CENTER OPEN
TUESDAY-SUNDAY | 10 AM - 6 PM

14353 Commodores Drive,
Corpus Christi TX 78418

©2023 Diamond Beach Holdings, LLC - All information and services are subject to change. Availability, prices, materials, and options may vary. All photographs, renderings and other depictions are for the sole purpose of illustration and are subject to change. Imagery is representational and does not depict specific buildings, views or future architecture, community, amenities or other details. Architect: PLACE Designers, Inc.; Landscape Architects: Cadence; Marketing & Sales by Strategist LLC.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY: Models do not reflect racial or ethnic preferences. Not an offer or solicitation to sell real property. Whitecap NPI does not discriminate against any class of persons protected by federal, state or local law.

WhitecapLivingNPI.com

gagedental
FAMILY & COSMETIC
John L. Gage, D.D.S.

Free whitening for qualified patients

- Routine Check-ups
- Cosmetic Dentistry
- Root Canal Therapy
- Extractions
- Implant Treatment
- Crown & Bridge
- Dentures
- Teeth Whitening

361-867-1800

WADE IN THE WATER
POOL & SPA SERVICES

WPC NPC IPSA

WEEKLY MAINTENANCE • EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION • REPAIRS • REMODELS

15715 S. Padre Island Dr. #101
FREE Water Testing!

Wade in the Water Pool Services LLC
361-658-8581
www.WadeInTheWaterPools.com

We Treat Your Pets LIKE FAMILY!

Keepin' Dogs on the Beach!

Island Animal Clinic
Bill McGehee, DVM & Associates

- Medicine • Surgery
- Diagnostics • Radiology
- Pharmacy • & More!

Mon-Fri by Appointment

319 Beach St.
next to The Crazy Cajun Restaurant
361-749-4134

NOW OPEN



Thoughts from Reverend Ken

By Rev. Dr. Ken

It doesn't have to be this way.

One of the feel-good movies of 2009 was *The Blind Side*. It's the story of Michael Oher who escaped poverty and a horrible home life to finish high school, attend the University of Mississippi, and play football in the NFL. He lived with the Tuohy family his senior year in high school. They welcomed him as one of their own. Michael called them family. They helped him get health insurance, a driver's license, get admitted to college. They provided him a home.

In 2023 Oher and the Tuohys became locked in a bitter argument about money. Oher said the Tuohys cheated him; the Tuohys called the claim outlandish, hurtful, and absurd. They accused Oher of attempting a shakedown. Both claimed betrayal. It doesn't have to be this way.

In the reality of betrayal and hurt, forgiveness is hard. Reconciliation is even harder.

Forgiveness is a rare commodity in our society. We are crushed by the weight of recriminations and score settling in the public arena and in our relationships. This can be especially so in our families. Maybe this is why the relational train wreck that was *Succession* was so popular. The story of a father that pitted his children against each other and of a sibling rivalry that tortured the souls of all involved. Maybe we found some solace thinking at least my family is not as bad as the Roy family. Or maybe, they are.

There is a story in the Bible about Jacob and his dysfunctional family. Jacob had twelve boys and one girl. There was sibling rivalry and jealousy, deceit and betrayal. One of the sons, Joseph, was sold into slavery by his brothers. Eventually Joseph forgave his brothers and there was reconciliation. It sounds so easy. It is not.

Joseph named the wrong; he said it out loud. We must name the wrong of brokenness and betrayal. We have to say it out loud, even if said out loud exposes our wrong. Brokenness wounds, breaks, and echoes down the ages. Forgiveness is not an escalator. It's more like a spiral staircase. We circle, circle, and circle again as we try to create distance between the pain we've suffered and the new life we seek. What we find is that ever so slowly the ground of our pain falls away. Ever so slowly we rise. Forgiveness is when you set the prisoner free, which you realize is yourself.

Some would say forgive and forget. However, we can never forget, nor should we. Forgiveness is not about pretending things are other than they are. Forgiveness is not about turning a blind eye to wrong. Reconciliation exposes awfulness, abuse, hurt, truth, and betrayal. Bishop Tutu taught that superficial reconciliation can only bring superficial healing.

When Anthony heard his older brother had been gunned down, he began struggling with rage that would last for years. His big brother was the only stable person in his life. He always stood up for Anthony in their tough neighborhood.

Anger wore Anthony down. He hated the person who did it. There was so much anger in his life, he became a monster. In time however, the fog of anger began to lift. He married, had two children, and came to faith. That led him to be overwhelmed by a desire to find reconciliation with the one who killed his brother.

It was a chance encounter while visiting a friend in prison that changed his life. Across the room was the man who killed his brother. That man saw Anthony and tried to duck down. He felt remorse, shame, unable to forgive himself. He was afraid of retaliation.

Anthony walked over to him and told him he had been praying for him. He told the man he had forgiven him and that he was praying he would see him. That chance encounter transformed both men's lives.

In our zero-sum world forgiveness is a rare commodity. It doesn't have to be this way. Good can rise from the ashes of pain. Hope lies in forgiveness, the forgiveness given by God, and the forgiveness given to each other.

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

Choose kindness, compassion, and love; do justice and make peace; welcome the stranger.
pastor@islandpresby.com

Sip Yard Port Aransas going up

New venue at major Port Aransas intersection set to open this year

If you have been to Port Aransas lately you can't help but have noticed the structure going up at the intersection of Cotter Avenue and Alister Street. It's called the Sip Yard Port Aransas and it is an outdoor dining and entertainment venue that will include small restaurants, open greenspace with outdoor

seating, a three-story structure with bars and seating, and a stage for live music. It is owned by Real Old Town Center LLC, with Port Aransas partners Kelby McCan, Jason Wood, Daniel Johnson Bron Doyle, and Todd Behringer of Waco. Construction is ongoing.



Port of Corpus Christi Commission Names New Officers

The Port of Corpus Christi Commission named new officers and announced two new Commissioners who took their oaths of office, administered by Nueces County Judge Connie Scott, at the Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz International Center during the governing body's first meeting of the new year. Commissioners Michael Pedrotti and Tony LaMantia were appointed by the Nueces County Commissioners Court at its December 13 meeting, replacing Charles W. Zahn Jr. and Dr. Bryan Guley on the Port of Corpus Christi Commission. LaMantia is the co-owner and Chief Operating Officer for L&F Distributors. He has also served on a number of boards for community organizations in the Coastal Bend, including the U.S.S. Lexington Board of Directors, Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation and the John G. and Marie Stella Kenedy Foundation. LaMantia is also one of the founders of the Stars Scholarship Fund, which has awarded more than 25,000 scholarships to South Texas students. Pedrotti has nearly 40 years of experience in the oil and gas industry, currently serving as Chief Executive Officer of Texegy Royalty LLC. His community service includes but is not limited to serving on the Texas

Parks and Wildlife Foundation Board of Directors, the Coastal Conservation Association and the Texas Independent Producers & Royalty Owners Association. At the January 2024 Port Commission meeting, Commissioners also welcomed back Commissioner Rajan Ahuja, who was reappointed for a second consecutive three-year term by the City of Corpus Christi. David Engel, who was first appointed to the Port Commission by the Corpus Christi City Council in 2013, was named as the new Chairman at the January Port Commission meeting. Commissioners Wes Hoskins and Gabe Guerra were also appointed to serve as vice-chair and secretary, respectively, for the year. Hoskins is an appointee of the San Patricio County Commissioners Court, while Guerra is an appointee of the City of Corpus Christi. The Port Commission governs the Port of Corpus Christi Authority and is composed of seven commissioners who serve without pay. Each commissioner serves a three-year staggered term. Three commissioners are appointed by the Corpus Christi City Council; three commissioners are appointed by the Nueces County Commissioners Court; and one is appointed by the San Patricio County Commissioners Court.

- *MINI OFFICES AND WAREHOUSES
- *OFFICE WITH ATTACHED 10X15 STORAGE
- *DRIVE UP OVERHEAD DOOR
- *ADDITIONAL STORAGE AVAILABLE
- *DRIVE UP FRONT DOOR PARKING
- *PACKAGE DELIVERIES ACCEPTED
- *CABLE AND INTERNET AVAILABLE

BILLS PAID
NO LONG TERM LEASE
GATED ACCESS

(361) 937 8673 | 10514 S.P.I.D

We are excited to announce the joining of James Jensen, CPA to the Penn Thomas CPA firm.

JAMES JENSEN

is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and Certified Valuation Analyst (CVA). His taxation experience ranges from the smallest mom-and-pop businesses to publicly traded companies. James received his Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Memphis in 2016 and was licensed as a CPA in 2017. James also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Baylor University with a double major in Biology and History and a minor in Chemistry. Since entering public accounting in 2014, James quickly advanced and in 2020 was named Income Partner at a Top 25 CPA firm. James left that firm in 2021 to pursue his dream of starting his own public accounting firm. James is passionate about helping other small business owners to not only be compliant with Federal and State taxation regulations, but also to understand their financial position and help grow successful businesses.

When not practicing accounting, James and his wife, Lauren, spend time with family and friends on the South Texas coast. They moved to Corpus Christi, TX in 2018 to live out their dream of living on the beach. James is an avid fisherman and enjoys kayak fishing for Redfish and Speckled Trout. The Jensens have three dogs, Madison, Odin, and Iris. They can often be found walking the neighborhood on Padre Island. The Jensens attend Padre Island Baptist Church and enjoy learning and teaching others in the Word of our savior Jesus Christ.

CALL TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT
361-884-6346

ISLAND OFFICE:
14633 S Padre Island Dr
361-949-7980

UPTOWN OFFICE:
711 N. Carancahua, Suite 1818
361-884-6346

PENN THOMAS, P.C.
CPA FIRM

www.pennthomascpa.com

Sudoku

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

Going Easy On You...

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

Knuckle-Cracker

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

Mind-Numbing Frustration

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

Brain-Buster

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

Whitecap NPI developers seeking signatures to remove its property from the PIPOA Public meeting scheduled for January 31

By Dale Rankin
Officials from Diamond Beach Holdings, LLC., (DBH) developers of the Whitecap North Padre Island project are currently seeking signatures from property owners in four adjacent subdivisions of the Padre Isles Property Owners Association (PIPOA) that would allow property at the Whitecap project to be removed from the PIPOA in order to form their own separate Homeowners Association. Removal of the Whitecap NPI parcels would not affect the ownership rights of property owners in the PIPOA subdivisions, nor would it effect their status as members of the PIPOA.
Officials from the Whitecap NPI project have been circulating the petition to property owners in the four subdivisions since mid-2023 and currently need about twenty signatures to reach a majority in each of the four. A separate round of signatures are needed in each subdivision.
“One of the obstacles to getting signatures has been a misunderstanding of a portion of the language in the agreement form,” said Doug King Sales Director of the Whitecap NPI project. “We are going to form our own property owners association for the Whitecap project, with the agreement of management at the PIPOA.”
King said the language in the first draft of the consent form presented to homeowners caused consternation due to the misunderstanding that signing it would deny them the right to sue the Whitecap NPI developers for any future grievances.
A column from PIPOA President Drew Diggins published in the Island Moon in 2023 reads as follows:
The PIPOA board and attorney have received the Affidavit and feel it clearly states the

intent of the DBH is to withdraw only DBH properties from the PIPOA. The affidavit referred to is a supplement to the original consent form circulated to property owners to clarify the tenets of the form. The language in the original form reads as follows:
In addition, the undersigned hereby waives any claim(s) arising under the Declarations, including any claim(s) that may arise in the future, relating to the DBH Property.
To clarify the terms of the agreement the additional affidavit includes clarifying language which reads as follows:
Notwithstanding the exact language in paragraph 2 of the Form of Amendment and the amendments actually signed by the various owners, the intent of such language is only to prevent any party signing an amendment and their respective heirs, devisees, representatives, successors and assigns with respect to the property such party owns from claiming that the DBH Property is subject to one or more of the Declarations or claiming that all or any portion of the DBH Property is breaching or in violation of any terms of the Declarations. There is no intent to waive any other type of claim.
To help property owners understand the terms of the documents being presented for their signature the developers of the Whitecap NPI project plan to hold a public forum to answer questions from property owners at their sales center at the corner of Commodores Drive and Compass Street on Wednesday, January 31, at 6 p.m. For questions contact Doug King at 704 258-4995 or email at doug@whitecaplivingnpi.com.

Island Crossword

Crossword Solution on classifieds page

Across

- Browning's Ben Ezra, e.g.
- Epps, the actor
- Sgt. Preston's grp.
- With force
- "Aida" backdrop
- Author Wiesel
- Book protection
- Parent's warning
- Invite
- Peter Fonda role of '97
- Debate subjects
- Hilton Head Island, for one
- Put to the test
- Be in control
- Church part
- ___ avis
- Fury
- Parts of mins.
- Some are blind
- "There's ___ day dawning ..."
- Debate side
- Rash reaction?
- Famed fed
- Pompous person
- Stadium levels
- Deceived
- Secret information
- Dark, poetically
- Bullring "Bravo!"
- Printer's blue-green
- Metier
- Cleopatra's love Antony
- Beanery offering
- Become allied
- In ___ (existing)
- Metal-stamping tools
- Conundrum

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. Detecting device | 18. They have crosses to bear | 45. Ring bearer? |
| 2. Tickle one's funny bone | 23. Take tea | 46. Swampland |
| 3. Soaks up sun | 25. Hasn't ponied up | 47. Videotaped over |
| 4. Byte fraction | 26. Island roof material | 48. Register a sale? |
| 5. Wound | 28. Fast waters | 51. Heavyweight champ from 1937-49 |
| 6. "For ___ in My Life" (Stevie Wonder) | 29. Harness races | 52. Ins |
| 7. Nichols or Wallace | 30. Spanish crowd? | 53. A way to discourage |
| 8. Pub staple | 31. Keeps folks in stitches | 54. Vertex |
| 9. Go on a pension | 32. Egyptian cobras | 55. Certain thick-piled rugs |
| 10. View from Jidda | 33. Feeling one's oats | 56. Noted Harper's Bazaar illustrator |
| 11. Seventh heaven | 34. Army reconnaissance transports | 57. Nickname for Springsteen |
| 12. Selfish one's exclamation | 39. Israel's Peres | 61. Mai ___ cocktail |
| 13. They may be collared | 40. Garden soldiers | 62. ___-cone (summer treat) |

Police Blotter January 8-14

JFK Causeway to SPID-Aquarius intersection

Disturbances
13500 block SPID 9 pm January 11 Fire
13500 block SPD 3 pm January 11
Suspicious Person
13300 block SPID 10 pm January 14
13500 block SPID 1 am January 9
Traffic
32 Traffic Stops
13500 block SPID 9 pm January 11 Crash
12000 block SPID 1 pm January 11 Crash
11800 block SPID 1 pm January 9 Crash

SPID West to Laguna Madre Crimes against Property

15000 block SPID 1 pm January 12 Unau-
thorized Use of a Motor Vehicle
15000 block SPID 6 pm January 11 Theft of
Services
14300 block SPID 2 pm January 11 Reck-
less Damage or Destruction
15000 block SPID 2 am January 11 Unau-
thorized Use of a Motor Vehicle
15000 block SPID 2 pm January 10 Unau-
thorized Use of a Motor Vehicle
13900 block Longboat Dr. 1 pm January
10 Fraudulent Possession of Identifying
Information
13700 block Cayo Gorda 8 a.m. January 12
Dumping
14200 block Allamanda 9 am January 11
Theft of Services
Disturbances

14900 block SPID 1 am January 11
Tesoro Dr./ Cobo de Bara Circle 10 pm
January 10 Noise Ordinance Violation
14400 block Cabana East 1 am January 8
Noise Ordinance Violation
14200 block Bay Bean 10 pm January 10
Suspicious Person
Blackbeard/Whitecap 4 am January 14
14500 block Cabana East 4 am January 13
Compass/Headsail Ave. 11 am January 11
14400 block Compass 9 am January 11
14400 block Compass 8 am January 9
14400 block Compass 7 am January 9
14200 block Bay Bean 10 p.m. January 10
Traffic
120 Traffic Stops
14300 block SPID 10 am January 13 Crash
14400 block Cabana East 11 am January 11
Parking Violation
Crown Royal Dr./Highland Mist Dr. 9 am
January 10 Parking Violation
14400 block Compass 11 am January 8
Parking Violation
15800 block Punta Espada 3 pm January 13
Crash

SPID East to Gulf of Mexico north to City Limits

Suspicious Person
SH 361/Beach Access Road 3 5 pm January
14
Traffic
49 Traffic Stops

Moon Classifieds #1031

Here's how to place a Classified Ad

To place an ad you can call me at 361-834-1382 or Email your ads to: moonclassad@twc.com No texts please

Costs start at \$12 for 25 words, 20 cents a word after that per issue. For a small additional charge, your ad can be centered, made larger or pictures or clip art can be added. Ads with payment can be taken to our office at:

14646 Compass St., Suite 3

Deadline for classified ads is no later than NOON on Tuesday

PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE PUBLICATION

We accept American Express, Visa, MasterCard

Legal & Business Notices

Do you need to place a legal or business notice? You'll find that our rates for running your notice cost less than many other publication in Nueces County. Call Arlene @ 361-834-1382 The Island Moon Weekly for more information The Island Newspaper since 1996

Real Estate

Townhome On The Island

3 Bedrooms 2 Baths

1 Car Garage

Fully furnished all bills paid

\$2,800 month

Call Elizabeth 210-643-0864



For Sale By Owner

Deep Lot 60 x 100 sq. feet

213 Bayview Dr. (Lot 34)

City By Sea, TX 78336

\$250,000

361-215-9681

Services

Appliance Repair



-N- House Appliance Repair

Most major brands & appliances

Also offering complete dryer vent clean outs

Mention this ad for discount on repairs

361-960-0911

BBQ Cleaning

CALL



Because YOU don't want to do it!

Frank 361-813-1929 cell

361-99-GRILL (994-7455)

CoastalBendGrillCleaning.com

Car Wash & Detailing

Padre Island Mobile Detail

The Island's Premier Mobile Detailing Service!

We come to you providing Car Wash & Full Detail Services

Call or Text 361-462-0877

Check out our website for more details:

padreislanddetail.com

or Email Greg at: padreislanddetail@gmail.com

Services

Housekeeping

Seaside Housekeeping & Interiors

Reliable quality work since 1996

Insured and bonded

References available upon request

Please call or text Valerie Elliott

361-215-4640

Junk Removal



Save Our Shores Junk Removal

Veteran Owned & Operated

Furniture Removal & House Clean Outs

Construction Debris Removal

Light Demolition

Bulk Item Pickups

Hot Tub Removals

Fence Removal

Dumpster Rentals AND MORE!

Owners:

Tommy Hearn

Nate Epling

361-941-3041

Plumber

Licensed Plumber

"On the Island"

Experienced

Excellent Service

361-660-5132

Pool & Spa Services

Wade In The Water Pool Services

Cleaning • Repairs • Remodels

Hot Tubs • Warranty Station

Don't go OTB for pool & spa chemicals!

15715 SPID #101

Monday-Friday 9am-5pm

FREE WATER TESTING

Locally owned and operated since 2010

Call 361-658-8581

ATLANTIS POOL AND SPA SERVICE

Weekly Pool Maintenance – Repairs

Renovations - Chemicals – Supplies

Residential – Commercial

25 Years Experience – Insured

Free Delivery! Free Estimates!

Island Resident Owned

Call 361-949-8899

Outdoor Services

Power Washing

ISLANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE

We Power Wash

Houses, Driveways, Fences, Decks & Sidewalks

Call us now to schedule an estimate

361-949-2773

Lawn & Tree Trimming

Islandscape Maintenance



* Lawn Maintenance

* Palm Trimming

* Lot Mowing

* Installation

* Power Washing

* Fall Cutback

* Decks

FREE ESTIMATES

361-949-2773



COMMERCIAL CUTTERS

Tree Trimming & Stump Grinding Services

Fully Insured – Free Estimates

361-446-3980

Home Improvements

Red Coral

Construction Company

361-688-6662

Home & Tiled Bathroom Remodeling

Additions • Carpentry • Painting

Siding Soffit & Fascia • Tiling

• Flooring • Concrete • Drywall and Fencing

Doors & Window Installation

Ask about our many more services to fit your needs

20+ Years Experience

License & Insured • Free Estimates

Dependable & Reliable Service

Home Repair

Plastering

Hi Tech Plastering, Inc.

Stucco, Eifs Coatings, Patch Jobs

Crack Repair, Spalling Concrete Repair

Wood Replacement, Facia, etc.

Artisan – Joe Cantu

Phone/Fax 361-814-5605

htplastering@aol.com

Roofing

Wolfe Construction, Inc.

• Insurance Restoration Specialists

• Roofing

• Residential & Commercial

Bryan Wolfe

361-949-1180

15809 El Socorro Loop

Corpus Christi TX 78418

ROOFING PROS!

Custom Home Exteriors, Inc.

Tom Sheehan 361-949-2100

Engineer Inspected/Windstorm Certified

Quality "Owens Corning" Shingles

Island Homeowner

Roofing Padre Island

Since 1985!

BMM

Roofing

Residential & Commercial

361-438-4095

Stucco

GOT CRACKS?

CALL THE STUCCO PROS

AT 361-949-2100

Decks/Docks/Boat Lifts

Artistic Construction

Boat Lifts, Decks, Docks, Etc.

Licensed & Insured

Member of Padre Island Business Association

361-444-4702

Sunnie@ArtisticConstruction.cc

OUR CD RATES ARE MAKING A SPLASH

5.25% APY*

12 MONTH CD

1st Community Bank

14254 South Padre Island Drive



Call 361-949-9310 today!

This rate won't last long.

fcbot.com/cd-special

*12-month Certificate of Deposit (CD) with a minimum opening deposit and maintained balance of at least \$100,000. The Annual Percentage Yield's (APY) is effective as of July 12, 2023. Fees could reduce earnings. Early withdrawal penalties may apply.

10% Discount for Island Homes!

Red's

AIR CONDITIONING

SINCE 1986

Prompt Professional 24 Hour Service

No Overtime Charges

• All Makes and Models

• Commercial & Residential

• 10 Year Part & Labor Warranties on ALL New Equipment

• Financing available

(361) 949-9545

Serving Padre Island & Flour Bluff Since 1986

TACL013184C



BBB

MasterCard

VISA

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

ACCESS STORAGE

CLIMATE CONTROLLED

NEW UNITS AVAILABLE!

♦GATE ACCESS 7 DAYS A WEEK

♦24/7 VIDEO SURVEILLANCE

♦MOVING BOXES AND SUPPLIES

♦BOAT AND RV SPACES

♦INSURANCE AVAILABLE

♦MILITARY DISCOUNTS

♦AUTHORIZED BIG GREEN EGG DEALER

♦MAILBOX RENTALS

♦SHIPPING SERVICES

One Month Free with a 6 Month Lease!

8041 SPID

Near Ennis Joslin

361-992-5400

www.storageunitcorpuschristi.com

Like us on Facebook

facebook.com/storage.corpuschristi

Big Green Egg

OFFICIAL GOLD DEALER

LONE STAR HOME IMPROVEMENT CO.

Decks

Docks

Boatlifts

Fishing piers

Pilings

Pergolas

HiTide dealer

25 years experience

All work guaranteed

FREE ESTIMATES

361-537-4045

lonestarhic@yahoo.com

www.lonestarhic.com

Island Moon offering space for PIPOA candidates

With the election cycle for the PIPOA Board of Directors getting underway we offer space here each week for candidates to communicate with the membership. We run them unedited. Send submissions to editor@islandmoon.com.

Candidates for Padre Isles Property Owners Association Board of Directors

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

The candidates for the upcoming 2024 Board elections are

Charles Cantu, Jr.

Chul Kim McGuire

Drew Diggins (Incumbent/President)

George Reed

Kevin Tansey

Michael Gdfula

Ray Singleton (Incumbent)

Thomas Gottemoller

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

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

Hello, I am Kevin Tansey, and I'm running for the PIPOA board. I have been an Island resident for 28 years and of Corpus Christi since 1973. I have been active with the surfing community from the days of the Texas Surfing Association, National Scholastic Surfing Association, Gulf Surfing Association, and now the Texas Gulf Surfing Association as a competitive surfer, judge, competition director, and district director. I proudly served in the United States Navy as a submariner, and since then, I have enjoyed a career in the oil and gas industry as an applications engineer. I have been a voting representative for FMC Technologies on the American Petroleum Institute Committee of Gas Fluid Measurement. Additionally, I sat on numerous Drafting Committees for Standards on Petroleum Custody Transfer Measurement. I raised my family here, attending and participating in many Flour Bluff School District programs. Over the years, I have also served on many Journey to Damascus Teams.

I have thoughtfully decided to run for the PIPOA Board for many reasons. Here are just a few of those reasons:

1. We have learned the current executive board needs to be more forthcoming with information to us, the residents, regarding their representation, and they must be transparent. I strongly feel our Board must maintain cordial and open working relationships with our neighbors, such as The City of Corpus Christi, including our Mayor Paulette Guajardo, City Manager Peter Zanoni, Councilman Dan Suckley, new development such as Whitecap NPI, Diamond Beach Holdings, IBC Bank, the developers of Lake Padre, mainly Tim Lange, and LJA Engineering. Their unchecked egos have significantly damaged these once good working and necessary relationships and, in doing so, cost us money! We've discovered that the board was negotiating behind closed doors with the adjacent landowners and not disclosing their personal goals pursuant to these negotiations. We learned third-hand that the POA executive board threatened lawsuits against our new neighbors and, by doing so, threw a completely unnecessary wrench into the works, ultimately costing thousands of wasted dollars on a law firm and new studies to literally study a study already completed by the City resulting in essentially the same informa-

tion. This is no way to welcome people to our Island and no way to represent us as property owners.

2. I have serious questions... Why is a Board Member being PAID to use his Professional Engineering stamp for property owners wanting to make architectural additions or changes to their property going to the Architectural Control Committee, then shepherding these plans for approval? Isn't this a severe conflict of interest??

3. One of many mandatory rules for the Board is any expenditure of \$5000 or over MUST BE VOTED ON by all members of the Executive Board. This applies to ALL spending, contracts, and renewing contracts. This mandatory rule needs to be followed. These are NOT personal check-books to a few Board members to make financial decisions with; it is OUR money, and I want to see open and strict adherence to these rules.

4. Vendors hired by the Board MUST be paid ON TIME! We must do so to avoid unnecessary late fees, interest rates, and potential lawsuits.

5. For board elections in the past, we always received ballots for upcoming POA elections when we received our CAM fee bills; that did not occur this year. Is this taxation without representation? What's the hold-up with the ballots? What kind of shenanigans is the current POA board pulling here? What are they hiding, or what information are they suppressing for their own re-election benefit? We need to know what they are doing behind closed doors. Our Bylaws require them to send the ballots out to every property owner. Where are they?

Ultimately, I have become sick and tired of the questionable antics of some members of our current Board. We need representation on the board that will not be bullied, will question expenditures, will follow the rules, will be transparent, will answer questions at monthly meetings, will be accountable for their actions, will exhibit unwavering integrity, and will not allow personal agendas to cloud their judgment. I am determined to be a Board member that will provide the much-needed oversight. When the Board finally does send out the ballots, I hope I have your vote.

Respectfully, your neighbor,
Kevin Tansey



Paramotoring out early at South Pckery. Photo by Evelyn Pless-Schuberth



By Ken Ames

The state of Texas offers several options for education assistance for veterans, and in some cases, their family members. These benefits are in addition to any federal programs like the Montgomery GI Bill or VA vocational training.

Texas National Guard, Texas Air Guard and Texas State Guard members can utilize State Tuition Assistance education benefits that provide money for college to eligible members of the Texas Military Department pursuing their educational and career goals. This benefit must be applied for each semester and is a reimbursement program. Veterans that entered the military in Texas, or were Texas residents at time of enlistment, are eligible to utilize benefits under the Texas Hazlewood Act. Qualified veterans get a tuition exemption of most fee charges for up to 150 credit hours at public institutions of higher education. This does not include living expenses, books, or supply fees.

Spouses and dependent children of an eligible veteran who has been determined by the VA to be 100%, total and permanent, service-connected veteran or one who became totally disabled for purposes of employability as a result of service-related injury or illness, a veteran that died as a result of service-related injuries, is missing in action (MIA), or killed in action (KIA), are eligible to receive a 150 credit hour exemption, each.

Veterans who are eligible under the Hazlewood Act may assign or transfer unused hours of exemption eligibility to a biological child, stepchild, adopted child, or claimed as a dependent in the current or previous tax year, under certain conditions. If you are a veteran that needs help dealing with the confusing VA system, want to be part of an organization dedicated to veterans and community, or just need to

talk to others that understand what you have been through, feel free to reach out to our adjutant at: americanlegionpost0229@gmail.com or check out our Facebook page: American Legion Post 0229 "The Islander Post". Our next meeting will be Tuesday, February 6th at the Island Italian restaurant. Social hour starts at 6:00 pm, and the meeting starts at 7:00 pm. We will have special guest Denise Yanus giving a presentation on the American Legion Auxiliary and answering any questions there may be about setting up our Auxiliary.

Our Salute to Service 2024 Concert and Live/Silent auction is this Saturday, January 20th at Marker 37 Marina. Sponsors and VIP ticket holders arrive at 6:00 pm for dinner, Ty Dietz performance and door prizes. General admission attendees enter at 7:30 pm for the live auction and performance by Jake Bush. Tickets and Silent Auction items can be found at:

Salutetoservice2024.betterworld.org.

Thanks to our generous donors we have almost 50

silent auction items for both men and women that are open for bidding now.

Our live auction is full of amazing items, we have a helicopter hog hunt, an offshore fishing

trip, a shark fishing charter, a Colt AR 15, a Michael O'Machearley original ladder damascus knife, a Glock 17 9mm pistol, a private dinner prepared by Chef Gail Huesmann,

a Tisas Raider edition 45 CAL pistol with hunting knife, a female red deer hunt, a ram hunt,

and a female Scimitar Oryx Hunt. Come to the event and bid on these awesome items

and support your American Legion. See you there!

PADRE ISLES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC. REGULAR MONTHLY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

5:30 PM

Wyndham – Corpus Christi Resort North Padre Island Hotel

15202 Woodward Drive

Corpus Christi, TX 78418

[Streaming to PIPOA Facebook Page](#)

NOTICE OF MEETING AND AGENDA

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

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. RECEIVE CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT(S)
3. PRESENTATIONS:
 1. ACC Presentation – Rick McGinley (ACC Chairperson)
 1. Presentation (Enclosed on Tab 2)
 2. Bulkhead Activity Report – Jerry Watkins (Bulkhead Project Mgr.)
 1. Activity Report (Enclosed on Tab 11)
4. MEMBERS' COMMENTS (3 minutes, per member)
5. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS:
 1. As Needed
6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – The Board will receive a report on important topics from the previous meeting.
 1. Next Board Meeting: February 27, 2024
 2. Executive Director's Report (Enclosed on Tab 3)
 3. Compliance Enforcement Update
 1. Current Open & Closed Violations Reports (Enclosed on Tab 12)
7. CONSENT AGENDA: (Routine items; acceptable without further discussion)
 1. Secretary's Report: December 23, 2023
 1. Email Votes – Selection of Election Buddy for the 2024 Board election
8. TREASURER'S REPORT – FINANCIAL REPORTS: (The Board will review, discuss, and then accept all financial reports, with possible motions.)
 1. December 2023 Treasurer's Report & December 2023 Financial Statements
 2. 2024 Budget Review & Approval.
9. OLD BUSINESS (with possible motions):
 1. Status of Diamond Beach-NPI canal connection.
 2. Status of Hawksnest Bay bulkhead repair.
 3. Boat Ramp Parking Policy (2024)
10. NEW BUSINESS (with possible motions):
 1. 2024 Maintenance Charge Collection Policy
 2. 2024 Annual Meeting / Board Election
 1. Meet the Candidates Evening
 3. Motion to amended Maintenance Charge Collection Policy to comply with Section 209.0094 of the Texas Property Code
 4. Motion to perform Bathymetric study of the Cruiser and Gypsy canal to establish canal depths and contours.
 5. Overnight Fishing/Camping by non-residents on PIPOA boat ramps
11. EXECUTIVE SESSION:
 1. Legal Matters (if warranted)
 2. Personnel Matters (if warranted)
 3. Contract Matters (if warranted)
 4. Appeals:
 1. 15425 Grass Cay Court
 2. 14125 Jackfish Avenue
12. RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION
13. ADJOURN



By Ronnie Narmour
ronnienarmour@gmail.com
Rest in Peace Lynn Fowler...



Rest in Peace Lynn Fowler

Port Aransas lost another precious soul last week. **Lynn Bert Fowler** died on January 13 at the age of 69. He was born June 10, 1955 at St. Mary’s Hospital in Port Arthur, Texas and is survived by brothers **Billy** and **Ben Fowler**, wife **Lorraine** and granddaughter **Jaycie Fowler**. Lynn worked at the *Shell Refinery* in Deer Park, Texas from 1977 until he retired in 2016. He had been coming to Port Aransas since the 70’s and his dream of living here came true on July 3, 2022. The cause of death has yet to be determined. No funeral services are planned and a celebration of life is being planned, hopefully in April. Lynn was a gentle soul and such a kind man. He was easy to spot on the bar stools at *Shorty’s* or *Red’s* with his little Yorkie named **Elvis**. I am not exaggerating when I tell you he’d give you the shirt off his back. Lynn gave us a couple of aloe vera cactus cuttings last summer and they are now huge and beautiful and super healthy and I will cherish them always. Losing Lynn is really hard and all of his friends around town are very sad. We loved the man and we miss him already. I want to thank **KK Knapp** and **Lilly Weller** for helping me with Lynn’s back story. This one hurts. We all adored you pal and you will be missed. Rest in peace, amigo.

Music Symposium...



The Winter Texans were thick as thieves at the Gaff’s BELT SANDER RACES last Saturday.

The second *Coastal Bend Music Symposium* is officially happening on February 15 at the *House of Rock* in Corpus. This event is a call for all musicians and music industry professionals who wish to learn more about the music industry. This symposium is in partnership with *Visit Corpus Christi*; the visitor information center with a mission “to strengthen our community by sharing Corpus Christi with the world.” The organization is primarily funded through Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) paid by visitors while staying overnight in hotels and short-term rentals.” Also, the *Texas Music Office of the Governor* has partnered with this event to present opportunities for members of the local music scene to receive access to resources and networking opportunities. Interested parties can register online at <http://bit.ly/3NUEQu0>.

Scattered shots...



The PA Rockers have begun their Winter residency every Wednesday until March at Bernie’s Beach House in Port A.

Well, the second week of the year was also on the slow side. There wasn’t a whole lot of options for live music but there were a few. Two of my new favorite bands played *Shorty’s* over the weekend; our Louisiana cousins, **Boudreaux and Pousson**, hammered it out in authentic

Cajun style complete with accordion and frottoir (musical scrub board). The gentlemen are the real deal and pretty much insists on audience participation. They were supposed to play *Shorty’s* over the Mardi Gras weekend in February but had a change of plans. However, you can usually catch them at *Shorty’s* or the *Gaff* and trust me, they’re good stuff. Also last weekend I caught **Heavy Soul**, a funky, hard driving trio from Corpus. The lead singer and guitarist, **Louis Mandel** and drummer **Landin Martinez** also play in the red hot **Chainlinks** band. Throw in the *Gaff’s* WORLD FAMOUS BELT SANDER RACES on Saturday and it turned out to be a fun weekend. BTW, the *Gaff* was packed, make that PACKED. The *Queso Grande* at the *Gaff*, **Kip Shannon** told me there must have been 200 maybe 250 (mostly) Winter Texans in attendance. It’s a different world in the winter months on our little island paradise. One fellow I met from Minnesota just couldn’t believe that me and my **Mermaid Gal** actually live here full time. He asked me three times if we really do live here all the time...yes we do.



Eli Brown will play Shorty’s this Friday the 19th.

DO NOT MISS LIST
Coming this weekend...



Blues man John Cortez will play the House of Rock on Saturday the 20th.

The band known as **Selfie** has morphed into the event known as **Selfie** every Thursday evening since November 2014. The personnel line-up has basically been the same: **Ray Summy** (guitar and vocals), **Chris Jordan** (bass and vocals) and **Cody Strong** (drums). Well, Chris Jordan went on hiatus at the first of the year and Cody Strong became a full time nurse. Enter the most excellent rhythm section of **Antone Perez** (drums and vocals) and **Art Galvan** (bass) and the occasional most excellent fill-in for Ray: **Mike O’Neil**. So I’m writing all this for your personal edification when I only say,”Selfie”. They play EVERY Thursday, have played EVERY Thursday and will play EVERY Thursday until hell freezes over. Are we clear on that? Coming this Friday, **Eli Brown** will play at *Shorty’s*. It was originally supposed to be **Red Tide** but their drummer is ill and couldn’t play. This will be his first time to play at *Shorty’s* for Eli. Elsewhere on Friday, **Triptonite** will play the *Pelican Lounge* and the GREAT **Ray Wylie Hubbard** will play two sold out shows at the *Third Coast Theater* this Friday and Saturday. Plus singer-songwriter extraordinaire from Memphis, **Keith Sykes**, will play there on the 27th. Since **Billy Joe Shaver** passed, I now consider Ray Wylie as the *Texas Poet Laureate*. And in case you didn’t know it... Ray Wylie hung the moon. I once drove non-stop, by myself, from San Antonio to Gainesville, Florida with only one CD (Ray Wylie Hubbard’s *Delirium Tremolos*) in the car and I listened to it over and over hour after hour. Needless to say, I’m a fan. I digress. On Saturday the new hot kid on the block, **Raul Ayala** will play *Shorty’s*, **Eclipse: Journey Tribute Band** will play *Brewster Downtown* and veteran blueser **John Cortez** will play the *House of Rock* with the **FBI Blues Band**. And coming on Monday the 22nd, Raul Ayala will commence hosting an open jam at *Shorty’s* and will do so every other Monday so grab your axes and join in on the fun. That’s it for now. It ought to hold you for a spell. Be safe out there... and stay warm!!!

♪♪♪ And, that’s the truth ♪♪♪



The Raul Ayala Band will play Shorty’s on Saturday and will host an open jam there on Monday.



Singer-songwriter extraordinaire Keith Sykes will play Third Coast Theater on Saturday the 27th.

LIVE MUSIC
TONIGHT

Friday.

January 19

Eli Brown @ Shorty’s
Ray Wylie Hubbard @ Third Coast Theater
The Groove @ Doc’s
Triptonite @ Pelican Lounge
OB Gonzales-Bushbullit @ K-Bob’s
Calallen Michael Burtts @ Tannin’s
Downtown Ruben Limas @ Blackbeard’s
Covertones @ Exchange
Raul Ayala @ Retro
Randal Hunt @ Eighteen 18 Bar

Saturday.

January 20

Raul Ayala @ Shorty’s
Ray Wylie Hubbard @ Third Coast Theater
Eclipse: Journey Tribute @ Brewster
Downtown John Cortez, FBI Blues Band @ House of Rock
Chainlinks @ Pelican Lounge
Afterglow @ Sugar Shack
Eric Graham @ Snoopy’s
Michael Burtts @ K Bobs
Cathouse @ Exchange
Carson Miller & Coastal Cowboys @ Annex
The Groove @ La Playa
Downtown Kat & Mattman @ Tannin’s
Alameda Mike Rivera Jr. @ Tannin’s
Southside Tom Cat @ Eighteen 18 Bar

Sunday.

January 21

Ty Dietz, Jim Dugan @ Shorty’s
Tumble Dry Low @ Bernie’s
Art Barrera @ Pelican Lounge
Michael Burtts @ Pier 99
Carson Miller & Coastal Cowboys @ Annex

Monday.

January 22

Open Jam w/ Raul Ayala @ Shorty’s
Lance Covington @ Pelican Lounge

Tuesday.

January 23

Open Mic @ Salty Dolphin
Ruben Limas @ Blackbeard’s
Jules Taylor @ Exchange
Open Mic w/Rev Matt @ House of Rock

Wednesday.

January 24

Brad Ethridge Open Mic @ Gaff
PA Rockers @ Bernie’s
Eli Brown @ Pelican Lounge
Billy Snipes @ Doc’s
Michael Burtts @ Rockits
Ruben Limas @ Blackbeard’s
Tomcat @ Exchange
Cleartones @ VFW
Joseph Martinez @ Eighteen 18 Bar

Thursday.

January 25

Selfie @ Shorty’s
Jam Duo @ Rockits
Brad Brown @ Blackbeard’s
Eric Graham @ Nueces Whiskey Library
Ruben Limas @ Island Italian
Chill Killer, Dream Stereo @ House of Rock
Raul Ayala @ Exchange
Jennifer Gayle Bradley @ Downtown Famers Market

Friday.

January 26

Justin & Niki @ Shorty’s
Boudreaux & Pousson @ Gaff
Dreaming in Color @ Pelican Lounge
Funik Rock Stereo @ House of Rock
Austin Meade @ Brewster
Downtown Eric Graham @ Cassidy’s Pub
Michael Burtts @ Tannins Alameda
Aaron Jacob @ Tannin’s Southside
Ruben Limas @ Blackbeard’s
Raul Ayala @ Exchange

BRON’S
BACKYARD
PORT ARANSAS, TX

BEACH CART
RENTALS

Treasure Island

LIVE MUSIC
WHISKEY BAR
DANCE CLUB

SHORTY’S

SELFIE EVERY THURSDAY

ELI BROWN	JAN 19
RAUL AYALA	JAN 20
TY DIETZ, JIM DUGAN	JAN 21
OPEN JAM	JAN 22
JUSTIN & NIKI	JAN 26

101 BEACH STREET, PORT ARANSAS

The
Port
Aransas
Cookbook

Catering & Private Chef
Services

361-453-0147

TEXAS RED’S RIVIERA

Happy Hour everyday 11-6!

FULL BAR • FOOSBALL • GOLDEN TEE • DARTS • POOL
SHUFFLEBOARD • Coldest beer in town!

(361) 416-1235

315 S. Alister • Port Aransas, TX

Paradise Computer
Services

Established, Local, Trusted

HELP

Since 2004

Sales & Service

409 w ave G (Cul-off rd) 749-4960

Port Aransas

Hair by
Heidi

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

call or text 512.914.8846

BELT SANDER
RACES

COLD BEER

THE GAFF

OPEN DAILY AT 11 AM

LIVE MUSIC

HOT PIZZA