



Deep Sea Roundup A3



Sunday at the Beach A4



Yard of the Month A6



Catch of the Week A9



The Many Bees of Texas A14

Issue 952

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

The Island Moon

The voice of The Island since 1996

July 14, 2022

www.islandmoon.com

Weekly FREE



Photo by Dale Rankin



By Dale Rankin

It's getting to the point you can't swing a building permit Around The Island without hitting a bulldozer, excavation machine, crane, or dump truck. As the photos in this issue attest this is an Island under construction.



Over at Packery Channel near the highway 361 bridge crews began work to repair the damage to the jetties just shy of five years after Hurricane Harvey left gaping holes in them. The road to repair took many twists and turns as the application for funds from FEMA travelled a long and winding road at city hall. In the end the solution looks to be pretty simple; put in more rocks. To quote the Existential Philosopher Forrest Gump "sometimes I guess there just aren't enough rocks."

Maintenance building



Over at Commodores Park crews this week went vertical on the Beach Maintenance Building. Once again this project bounced all Around The Island since it was approved by voters in a 2014 bond election. It morphed from a combination maintenance building and fire station at Padre Balli Park – deed restriction problem – to a site near the Island water tower – too much machinery driving through neighborhoods – to the parking lot on Zahn Road – had to be raised fourteen feet above sea level which was a budget buster. It finally settled at Commodores Park after objections but the city was spending \$300,000 per year replacing and repairing beach maintenance machinery so there it sits.

Whitecap North Padre Island

As you can see from the photos in this issue the excavation work at the newly renamed Whitecap North Padre Island is getting done in a hurry. The crews over there are not messing around. The zoning hearing which should produce more details on the project has been pushed back until the end of August due to the need for some additional survey work.

Lake Padre

Work to install infrastructure around Lake Padre (Padre Sound) continues as well with still no final drawing available on what will be built there. The developer reports that while the platting documents that allow for infrastructure are in place to allow the current work to be done, the final design is still a work in progress.

Water Exchange Bridge

The lynchpin in all of this development is the Water Exchange Bridge that ties it all together and that project is on schedule to have water flowing under it by spring 2023. Only one of the three arches in the bridge is for boats with two-thirds of the bridge's span dedicated to cart and

Around cont. on A4



Whitecap Project

The sign went up at the site of the Whitecap North Padre Island site this week as work digging the new 12,000 feet of canals there is moving ahead briskly. This shot shows the work around the corner of Dasmariñas and Aquarius as of noon Tuesday. A hearing before the City of Corpus Christi Planning Commission originally set for Wednesday, July 13, has been postponed until August 30. City officials told the Island Strategic Committee Tuesday the delay was the result of the need for additional survey work.

Photo by Doc McGregor II.

Two New Developments Flour Bluff and Mustang Island

By Dale Rankin

Two zoning cases were set for hearings before the Planning Commission at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 13 after the Island Moon went to press. One case is for a Short-Term Rental property in Flour Bluff, the other for a new subdivision on Mustang Island. Here is the background on each application for zoning changes.

New Mustang Island Residential Development

The Mostaghasi Investment Trust has submitted an application for platting for a single-family subdivision on 12.35 acres fronting the Gulf of Mexico north of Wilson's Cut and just south of the Corpus Christi City Limits.

Developments cont. on A4



Site map for Flour Bluff Project

A little Island history

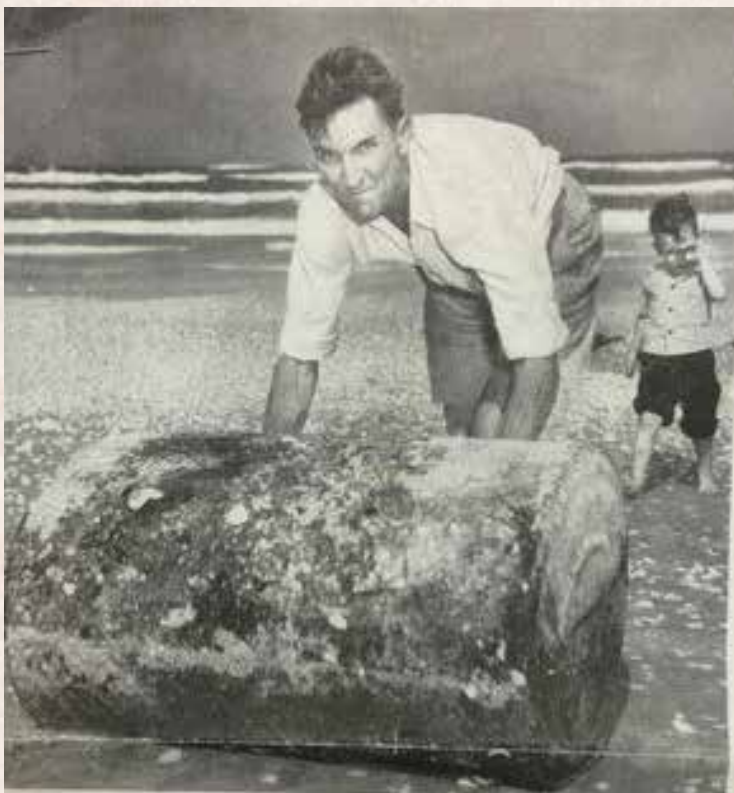
Island of Reprieve

Editor's note: This is the third in a series of stories taken verbatim from the memoirs of Islander Louis Rawalt who moved to The Island with his wife Viola in 1925 after being given only six months to live by doctors due to injuries from a mustard gas attack in World War I. In the last story he had already outlived the doctor's estimate by over six months. He and his wife Viola originally built a cabin near what is now Packery Channel.

By Louis Rawalt

We moved our camp to the edge of Big Shell the next year, (1926) thirty-five miles down the beach. This time we had a shack to live in. A place loaned to us by Major Swan, one of the old timers on The Island. I bought a surf net and used a Model-A to replace the rust-eaten Model-T. We converted the Ford into a pickup. Viola helped me with the net until I found a fishing partner.

One morning when we were hauling in the net, something kept leaping against it with the force of a huge shark or a porpoise. We couldn't bring it in, so I staked one



Louis Rawalt and son Charlie in little shell beach in the 50s. Louis lived on the island on and off from 1933 to the 70s.

History cont. on A4

Anglers take notice!

Ocean-Going Baitfish move into Bays

By Joey Farah

After a month of relatively low tides and blistering heat, our bay systems are turning a new corner. Many of the top end gamefish have spawned and then retreated from the hot backwaters, and moved towards zones of good tidal flow and cooler temperatures. Some baitfish will mature and move towards the Gulf and its passes, bringing gamefish following.

At the same time there is a swarm of ocean-going baitfish that rush in and fill the bays with each incoming tide. There are schools of predatory gamefish that ride these tides and

Fishing cont. on A11

By the numbers...

Wrecks on SPID

The following is a list of the number of traffic accidents in the 13,000 and 14,000 blocks of South Padre Island Drive by year obtained from the City of Corpus Christi through an Open Records Request. The number for 2022 reflects the number through June 20, 2022.

The 13,000 block begins at the northern base of the JFK Bridge (not including the JFK Causeway on the Flour Bluff side) and the southernmost end of the 14,000 block ends at Nemo Court.

- 2012 53
- 2013 68
- 2014 39
- 2015 46
- 2016 70
- 2017 61
- 2018 58
- 2019 50
- 2020 65
- 2021 70
- 2022 *67

Grand Total 647

Note: The JFK Bridge was reduced to two lanes from January through late May.

Deep Sea Roundup 2022



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Photos by Ronnie Narmour

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History cont. from A1

end of the net into the sand, and hooked onto the other end with the car.

Slowly, I pulled in the net until the creature lay in the edge of the surf. Incredible! It was an eighteen-foot sawfish. When some fishermen came by later that day and found me beside the sawfish with a cane pole – no net in sight – they assumed I had caught it on the pole. I didn't enlighten them, and this tall fish story was told about Corpus Christi for years. The sawfish, I regret to say, became food for the packs of coyotes that roamed the wild stretches of Big Shell.

We seldom saw other human beings there, but coyotes growled close to our shack at night, and in the early mornings and evenings we saw them on the beach searching for fish which were the mainstay of their diet. I learned by experience just how clever and crafty they were. I have seen them fishing in the surf for mullet and catching them! Many times I saw these lean, hungry, animals watching me from over the rim of the dunes. Once I left the beach, they would sneak down and pick up my discards. Sitting on the porch that I had added to our shack, one early morning after I had set out my trotlines, I saw two big coyotes sling down to the water's edge and begin dragging one of the lines in to shore. I was too amazed and curious to move. They pulled the line all the way in; then bit the fish off the hooks, and trotted with them back to their habitat in the dunes. Many persons doubted the truth of this, but I saw the same thing happen time and again.

One night Viola nudged me awake. "There's something in the kitchen," she whispered.

Listening, I heard the faint rattle of the tin plates we had left on the table. I got up and edged toward the kitchen. The moonlight streamed through the open door, and outlined the gaunt, gray form of a coyote. He was on the table licking up the remains of our supper. He sensed my presence and leaped for the door, but slipped on a greasy plat and somersaulted into the center of the room. I gave a swift kick to the astonished animal and sent it rolling down the back steps. Tail down, it trotted up a nearby dune and sat on a nearby dune and sat on its haunches barking with venom. As I looked closer, I saw the forms of four of five puppies, joining in the harsh chorus. They continued to bark until I got my shotgun; then they vanished into the night.

During a big run of redfish one night, I caught ninety, averaging in weight from five to fifteen pounds. I kept them on stringers alive in the surf until I was too tired to fish any more; the, nearing midnight, I started to ice them down in the pickup. There was no ice. I hastily loaded the fish and hauled them back of the dunes where I put them in a pond. We could net them the next morning easily, and hurry them into the market. This catch would bring seventy-five or eighty dollars which we needed for supplies.

Satisfied with the night's work, I tumbled into bed and slept until dawn. With the first light of morning, I hurried to the pond. I stared in amazement at what I saw: Scattered around the bank of the pond were the headless carcasses of the ninety redfish. The coyotes had outwitted me. Their tracks formed a networked around the pond and trailed into the sand hills in every direction. They ate a hearty supper; but what were we going to eat?

I drove into town that day for a new supply of ice which was all I could buy. The next night the redfish were still running – so we got our groceries and gasoline after all.

Coyotes weren't the only problem we had to cope with on the beach. In any season, but especially during the vernal and autumnal equinoxes, the Gulf might change from peach to violence. We lived in the Devil's Elbow, the bend of the long arm of padre. It was strewn with the accumulated wreckages of the years,

from shrimp boats and freighters to Spanish galleons dating back to the time of Cortez. Salvage from these boats helped to improve our daily living conditions, and some old coins and jewelry I found at the site of one of the wrecks made interesting additions to our treasure trove of beachcombing.

Some of the castoffs of the waves were unusual and astonishing. One afternoon Viola and I stopped to examine a five-gallon can that had washed up on the beach. I pried the lid off with my fishing knife. The can was filled with clean, white lard. We put it into the pickup, and before the day was over, we had salvaged more than a hundred cans. There was a lot more damaged cans that we left lying on the beach. The Coast Guard told us later that a Mexican freighter had been torn to pieces by a sudden tumult in the Gulf. She was carrying a cargo of lard; it made a profitable load of salvage for us and a grease bath for the beach. For along time after that the sand was saturated with lard. The island coyotes grew fat from feasting on it. Even the san crabs acquired a new look of sleekness.

It was about the same time when the British smuggler, "I'm Alone," was shelled and sunk by a Coast Guard cutter in Sigsbee's Deep near the southern tip of Padre. The ship was spotted off New Orleans where she expected to land her contraband cargo of whiskey. The cutter chased her along the coast, finally closing on her. The captain refused to surrender. He jettisoned the cargo before the Coast Guard cutter blasted the ship full of holes.

I received word by the island grapevine to be on the lookout for the liquor, so I started down the beach in the pickup, searching the incoming waves and the tide line for bottles of the amber elixir. I didn't see anything that looked like whiskey, but noticed a full gunnysack embedded in the sand. I could check on it later, so I moved on, but when I saw several more similar sacks, I stopped to investigate. The sack I opened contained a dozen sealed tin cans. I pried the lid from one of the cans. Inside, was a bottle of "Old Hospitality" Bourbon whiskey. During the day, I salvaged one hundred and ten sacks. I stashed this horde behind the dunes, filled a duffle bag with seventy-two bottles and headed for Port Isabel.

The ferry boat took me across the channel. The captain's suspicions were aroused by the weight of the duffle bag. I had to explain what I had found and make a gift of a few bottles. It is enough to say that I disposed of the remainder in Port Isabel.

When I returned to the island, a comforting feeling of cash in my pockets and the prospect of more, I met the captain of the ferry boat and one of his crew. They were driving a pickup with the bed loaded with the bulging gunnysacks. I followed their tracks, ahs they had, from all appearances, followed mine, to my cache in the dunes. Of all my loot there wasn't even a bottle left!

For weeks the beach was combed by thirsty men all the way from Port Isabel to Port Aransas. At Port Aransas, one boatman got more of the "drink" than he counted oh. He spotted a sack and headed his craft toward it. As he reached over the side for the bobbing, burlap bag, he tumbled into the water. He was five miles from shore, and his boat was circling away. He kept afloat by using the liquor as a life-buoy. The boat swung in a circle, finally coming back to him. He grasped the side and struggled aboard. Evidently, the thoughts that raced through his brain as he floundered in the water, with drowning almost a certainty, sobered him greatly; for when he got back to town, he sold his boat and other possessions and move inland.

Next issue: Living through the hurricanes.

Developments cont. from A1

The project is called Ocean Breeze Subdivision and consists of 23 lots which front State Highway 361 on the west and wetlands abutting the beach on the east. The city staff has recommended approval of the platting request.

Laguna Shores

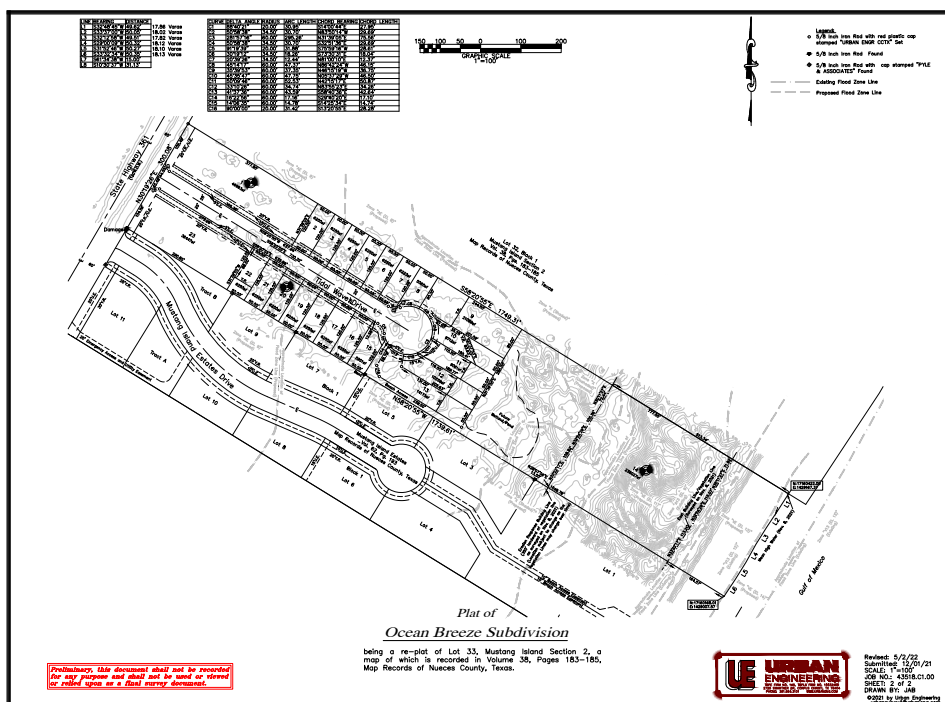
In a separate filing, less than one month after the ribbon cutting for the newly improved Laguna Shores Road in Flour Bluff a permit has been filed for a new Short-Term Rental project on the waterfront there.

Amidon Holdings has filed for a rezoning at 2101 Laguna Shores Road from the current RS-6 Single Family Residential to CR-1 Resort Commercial District. According to documents filed with the city Planning Commission – Zoning Case number 0622-03 -

the 1791 acre tract is located along the east side of Laguna Shores, and north of Lola Johnson Road fronting the Laguna Madre.

City documents say the Amidon Holdings purchased the property in 2020. It currently consists of a two- bedroom, and two-bathroom, single-family residential home. The property has six parking spaces and with the passing of the Short-Term Rental ordinance in June, which does not prohibit Short-Term Rental property in residentially-zoned areas of Flour Bluff, the property could apply for a STR permit without a change of zoning.

The city staff recommends approval of the zoning change.



Current site to become short-term rental in Flour Bluff.

Sunday at the Beach



Photos by Evelyn Plesse-Schuberth.

Around cont. from A1

pedestrian traffic, but what is still unknown is how carts and people will connect to paths on either side.

That bridge, another project so far eighteen years in the making – is going to be as big of a difference maker as the old Don Patricio Causeway was when it opened in July, 1927. Maybe instead of the clunky name Water Exchange Bridge we should call it the Don Patricio Bridge; it has a nice ring to it.

We're sliding right through the 100-day summer season hereabouts with Labor Day the next milestone – or millstone depending on your perspective. If you go to the beach watch out for the soft sand, it's everywhere and it likes to eat cars. In the meantime say hello if you see us Around The Island.

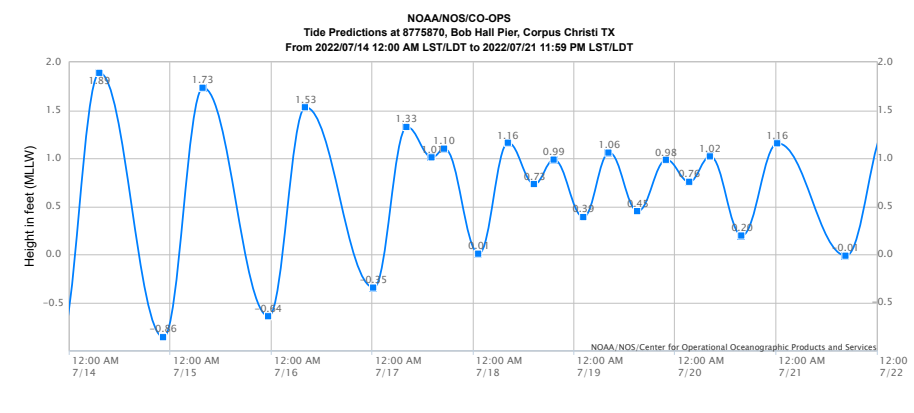


Work at Whitecap North Padre Island as of noon Wednesday. Photo by Augs Art.

Tides of the Week

Tides for Bob Hall Pier July 14 - July 21

Day	High /Low	Tide Time	Height Feet	Sunrise /Sunset	Moon	Time	% Moon Visible
Th 14	High	7:07 AM	2.0	6:43 AM	Set	7:29 AM	99
	Low	10:20 PM	-1.0	8:27 PM	Rise	9:50 PM	
F 15	High	7:50 AM	1.8	6:43 AM	Set	8:41 AM	98
	Low	11:16 PM	-0.8	8:26 PM	Rise	10:35 PM	
Sa 16	High	8:19 AM	1.6	6:44 AM	Set	9:50 AM	94
	Low			8:26 PM	Rise	11:15 PM	
Su 17	Low	12:12 AM	-0.5	6:44 AM	Set	10:55 AM	87
	High	8:32 AM	1.3	8:26 PM	Rise	11:50 PM	
	Low	2:20 PM	1.0				
M 18	High	5:13 PM	1.1				
	Low	1:09 AM	-0.1	6:45 AM	Set	11:56 AM	
	High	8:34 AM	1.1	8:25 PM			
Tu 19	Low	2:43 PM	0.7				
	High	7:14 PM	1.0				
	Low	2:11 AM	0.3	6:45 AM	Rise	12:22 AM	
W 20	High	8:31 AM	1.0	8:25 PM	Set	12:54 PM	69
	Low	3:21 PM	0.4				
	High	9:30 PM	1.0				
Th 21	Low	3:32 AM	0.7	6:46 AM	Rise	12:53 AM	58
	High	8:24 AM	1.0	8:24 PM	Set	1:51 PM	
	Low	4:04 PM	0.1				
Th 21	High	12:31 AM	1.1	6:46 AM	Rise	1:25 AM	48
	Low	5:44 AM	0.9	8:24 PM	Set	2:47 PM	
	High	8:03 AM	1.0				
Th 21	Low	4:50 PM	-0.1...				



Going Native by Dr. Ed Proffitt



More on drought, xeriscaping, and native plants

By Dr. Ed Proffitt

It's mid July and we the tropical system offshore a couple of weeks ago didn't deliver any respite from the continuing drought. It's hot, dry, and it's going to get worse. Oh, depending on the shift between El Nino and La Nina we might get a somewhat wetter year at some point. But, it won't really help if the long-term trend is what the experts say it is --- hotter and drier in future decades.



This is a much bigger problem than can be confronted in the confines of a political cycle or two! We, the citizens of south Texas, need to band together and develop citizen-driven, grassroots plans to do our part. If we do, then political leaders and the agencies they oversee will get involved and bring willpower, resources,

and expertise to the table. What can we do? Several ideas leap to mind, and I'm hoping the collective brainpower out there on the Island will come up with even better ones. There are already a few First, we can all incorporate increasing levels of drought-tolerant native plants in our yards. A few of us personally do this and a few commercial enterprises (like Native Dave's where I go for plants and advice), but like in Alice's Restaurant --- it needs to become a "movement." Second, we can politely demand that parks leadership expand their use of native plants. They work for us taxpayers, if we demand it for the Island, they'll likely do it. Third, we need to form a coalition with South Padre Island to bring a more regional, statewide focus on the issue and elevate the level of "concern."

Fourth (and I'm giving this one its own paragraph!), the movement or coalition or whatever it gets called needs a sugar daddy (or two, or three...)! When I check around, people tell me that they often have trouble finding native (drought tolerant or otherwise) plants and I'm guessing that developers who hire landscapers have the same problem. If developers begin asking for more native plants --- I think there'll be more of a response than you or especially me might get! We need a corporate sponsor who'd like their name attached to "helping solve the problem of drought not only on the Island but more broadly in Corpus Christi and the Coastal Bend. HEB, for example, already does a lot for the communities they serve. But, few issues are as widespread and likely of long-term importance to south Texas as assisting communities

respond to drought with the proper plants. HEB sells some plants and seeds. They could fund (partially or fully) an extensive greenhouse facility at which propagation of native, drought tolerant plants on the scales needed could be achieved. With some financial resources behind it, other groups like Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi, Agri-life, University of Texas - Marine Institute, and Del mar College might get involved to teach students the horticulture and ecological lessons necessary to lead this effort into the future. Graduate students, and some advanced undergraduates, and their faculty mentors could even do some of the important research to make this much more than only a plant propagation center.

Other funders (ok, "fourth" has lopped over into multiple paragraphs...sorry, I'm on a roll) could step up to the plate and knock the puck onto the green. You may snicker, but be truthful...isn't that the kind of statement you expect from an academic! For example, the Port is now, and will be in our future, a key driver of our community's economy. They are already heavily invested in our community in many ways and this would be a way that they could show leadership on a critical, and worsening, environmental problem!

Finally, fifth, the movement needs big time leadership, not just somebody writing about it in a column. We need leaders to drive local and regional change. We need leaders that can influence state leadership to become invested and involved. I know some of you are friends with our local political leaders. For those of you who are, and who think this is a good embryonic idea, please put these ideas to our various leaders and ask that they get behind the movement. It needs a name. As a first cut, let's call it the Xeriscaping and Native Plant Coalition of South Texas (although the acronym is terrible...so please feel free to email me with better names)!

Thanks for reading this far and considering these points. Let's get some actions under way and as always keep Going Native. I've included a photo of a century plant (Agave americana) because that's probably how long we'll have to be involved in this action! It may not be native to the Island, but it certainly is to much of south Texas and Mexico. The plant itself is extremely drought tolerant and its inflorescence is very tall and highly majestic. If you go to plant it be mindful of the hard, very sharp tips that can poke unsuspecting children and dogs. The picture comes from kiiitv (thanks!).

So, go forth and clamor for water conservation and, of course, go native!



Stuff I Heard on the Island

By Dale Rankin

There is a lot of stuff to hear on The Island these days...here is some of it.

Packery Channel



Barge to repair more Packery Channel jetties arrives.

The report to the Nueces County Coastal Parks Board last week was that when the barge working on demolition of Bob Hall Pier had to leave the worksite it had to travel to Port Aransas because the water at the entrance to Packery Channel was too shallow for it to enter there. County officials said the barge drew less than six feet of water.

Since its opening in 2005 there has been a continuous problem with shoaling at the mouth of the channel, a problem is known to city officials and to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The current plan is to use money that is already available from the Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone #2 (TIRZ) to dredge the channel but the dredging will not be done until the work to repair the Packery Channel Jetties which is now underway is complete. The TIRZ was formed specifically to address that problem and has raised sufficient money for the job, but the problem has been raising the \$20 million to fix the Packery Jetties after Hurricane Harvey because of problems getting funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) which was finally done about a year ago.

According to plans outlined at the Island Strategic Action Committee the sand from the dredging will be placed on the beach at the south end of the Michael J. Ellis Seawall to widen it beyond 150 feet - providing there is sufficient useable beach quality sand from the dredging, which according to the Conrad Blucher Institute which monitors the channel system is lacking and a supplemental source of sand will need to be found.

Once the dredging is done plans outlined by the city in January call for the channel to be maintained at a minimum of eight feet from the mouth of the jetties to the seagate at the entrance to Lake Padre to allow for the passage of ocean-going boats. The flow through that portion of Packery Channel and through Lake Padre will be enhanced by the water flow under the Water Exchange Bridge which is scheduled to begin in early 2023. But based on the history of Packery since its opening shoaling has been an ongoing problem and keeping it dredged to eight feet is going to be an ongoing struggle.

Bob Hall Pier

Last week in this space I outlined the debate over whether and/or how to expand the restaurant space at the new Bob Hall Pier. The question at hand is whether to go up a story - doubling the available space from 5000 to 10,000 square feet - or to expand out the existing first floor. After we went to press last week the Nueces County Commissioners Court voted to approve \$2 million for the expansion; \$2 million being the estimate for adding the second story. The money came from discretionary funds from Precinct 4 County Commissioner Brent Chesney and

County Judge Barbara Canales.

The Nueces County Coastal Parks Board in its July meeting voted to request a feasibility study on expansion of the first floor, and for an updated figure on the cost of adding the second floor to make sure the price has not risen from the \$2 million estimate which was done about six months ago.

Both Commissioner Chesney and Judge Canales spoke to the Island Strategic Action Committee on Tuesday and there is agreement that the restaurant space needs to be expanded, the only question is whether it's up or out but that's a good debate to have since the money is there. A survey of just over 1000 people found that 52% of the people who visit the pier don't fish. Like many of us they like to sit at the bar and solve the world's problems and adding space whether it's up or out will help whip the world into shape much sooner.



Briscoe King Pavilion interior



Briscoe King Pavilion

Briscoe King Pavilion

The other news from the Tuesday ISAC meeting was a push by both Chesney and Canales for an overhaul of Briscoe King Pavilion which has been in need of attention for two decades. The space is un-air conditioned and a study about a decade ago found that the cost of insulating it alone much less the cost of the air conditioning system was then in the neighborhood of \$400,000. Both Chesney and Canales on Tuesday brought up the possibility of using funds from the Island TIRZ to pay for improvement at the pavilion which is timely since the flyover structure that is expected to be the entrance to Bob Hall Pier will launch from the Briscoe King Parking lot. Having an up to date events space/community hall makes a lot of sense and in listing to both Chesney and Canales Tuesday it sounds like the funds can be found. There other item that needs attention there is the removal of Briscoe King Lake which forms every time we get a sprinkle of rain but from the looks of things that isn't really a pressing problem.

All things considered the hurricane that knocked down the pier looks like it did The Island a favor in the long run because as things are now progressing the new pier that replaces the old pier is going to be a lot better space than what was there before the storm took it down and attention paid to rebuilding the pier will include attention for Briscoe King Pavilion.

Things are moving in a positive direction.

Island Aerials: Bridge



Photos by Augs Art.

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Senior Moments



By Dotson Lewis
Special to the Island Moon

The Great Depression 1929-1941 Part 1

Dotson's Note: You may ask, why should students learn about the Great Depression? Your grandparents and great-grandparents lived through these tough times, but you may think that you should focus on more recent episodes in American life. In this report, I hope to convince you that the Great Depression is worthy of your interest and deserves attention in economics, social studies and history courses. Thanks to David C. Wheelock and Doug Trent CPA, for the facts contained in this report. Also, my thanks to my friend Ralph Triska for the photos.



A reason to study the Great Depression is that it was by far the worst economic catastrophe of the 20th century and, perhaps, the worst in our nation's history. Between 1929 and 1933, the quantity of goods and services produced in the United States fell by one-third, the unemployment rate soared to 25 percent of the labor force, the stock market lost 80 percent of its value and some 7,000 banks failed. At the store, the price of chicken fell from 38 cents a pound to 12 cents, the price of eggs dropped from 50 cents a dozen to just over 13 cents, and the price of gasoline fell from 10 cents a gallon to less than a nickel. Still, many families went hungry, and few could afford to own a car.

Another reason to study the Great Depression is that the sheer magnitude of the economic collapse—and the fact that it involved every aspect of our economy and every region of our country—makes this event a great vehicle for teaching important economic concepts. You can learn about inflation and deflation, Gross Domestic Product (GDP), and unemployment by comparing the Depression with more recent experiences. Further, the Great Depression shows the important roles that money, banks and the stock market play in our economy.

A third reason to study the Great Depression is that it dramatically changed the role of government, especially the federal government, in our nation's economy. Before the Great Depression, federal government spending accounted for less than 3 percent of GDP. By 1939, federal outlays exceeded 10 percent of GDP*.



Employment Agency.

The Great Depression also brought us the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC), regulation of securities markets, the birth of the Social Security System and the first national minimum wage. What caused the Great Depression? Economists continue to study the Great Depression because they still disagree on what caused it. Many theories have been advanced over the years, but there remains no single, universally agreed-upon explanation as to why the Depression happened or why the economy eventually recovered.

The 1929 stock market crash often comes to mind first when people think about the Great Depression. The crash destroyed considerable wealth. Perhaps even more important, the crash sparked doubts about the health of the economy, which led consumers and firms to pull back on their spending, especially on big-ticket items like cars and appliances.

However, as big as it was, the stock market crash alone did not cause the Great Depression. Some economists point a finger at protectionist trade policies and the collapse of international trade. The Smoot-Hawley tariff of 1930

dramatically increased the cost of imported goods and led to retaliatory actions by the United States' major trading partners. The Great Depression was a worldwide phenomenon, and the collapse of international trade was even greater than the collapse of world output of goods and services. Still, like the stock market crash, protectionist trade policies alone did not



cause the Great Depression. Other experts offer different explanations for the Great Depression. Some historians have called the Depression an inevitable failure of capitalism.

Others blame the Depression on the "excesses" of the 1920s: excessive production of commodities, excessive building, excessive financial speculation or an excessively skewed distribution of income and wealth. None of these explanations has held up very well over time. One explanation that has stood the test of time focuses on the collapse of the U.S. banking system and resulting contraction of the nation's money stock. Economists Milton Friedman and Anna Schwartz make a strong case that a falling money stock caused the sharp decline in output and prices in the economy. As the money stock fell, spending on goods and services declined, which in turn caused firms to cut prices and output and to lay off workers. The resulting decline in incomes made it harder for borrowers to repay loans. Defaults and bankruptcies



Apples five cents.

soared, creating a vicious spiral in which more banks failed, the money stock contracted further, and output, prices and employment continued to decline. Money makes the economy function.

Money evolved thousands of years ago because barter—the direct trading of goods or services for other goods or services—simply didn't work. A modern economy could not function without money, and economies tend to break down when the quantity or value of money changes suddenly or dramatically. Print too much money, and its value declines—that is, prices rise (inflation). Shrink the money stock, on the other hand, and the value of money rises—that is, prices fall (deflation). In modern economies, bank deposits—not coins or currency—comprise the lion's share of the money stock. Bank deposits are created when banks make loans, and deposits contract when customers repay loans. The amount of loans that banks can make, and hence the quantity of deposits that are created, is determined partly by regulations on the amount of reserves that banks must hold against their deposits and partly by the business judgment of bankers. In the United States, bank reserves consist of the cash that banks hold in their vaults and the deposits they keep at Federal Reserve banks. Reserves earn little or no interest, so banks don't like to hold too much of them.

*At present, federal spending accounts for about 20 percent of GDP.

TO BE CONTINUED

Dotson's Other Note: If any of you Moon Monkeys are not interested in your money, let me know, and I will not continue this report. Your comments are welcome to the Editor of The Island Moon or to me at Mobile: 530-748-8475 or dlewis1@stx.rr.com. FOR YOUR INFORMATION: The Weekly Veterans Round Table Meetings are on Tuesdays 9-11AM. All veterans, their families and anyone interested in veterans' activities, are invited. The meeting location is at Del Mar College, Center for Economic Development, 3209 S. Staples. (Across from Ray High School). Also, the Veterans Radio Round Table is on the air on KEYS AM 1440 & 98.7 FM, 8 - 10 a.m., Saturdays. Please listen and call in or text. The listener/text line is: 361-882-5397...It's your two hours, please let us hear from you.



By Pastor Kris Bair

The assault continues.

I've been working the grandboys through the musical *Hamilton*, and we've been reading the *Declaration of Independence* and discussing it together.

Of course, the first thing they noticed was that some of the words were spelled incorrectly.

Gasp! Kudos to several teachers in their past!

The Oldest Grand Boy (OGB) even knew that those "errors" could have been correct spellings back then (Jefferson and company wrote it prior to Noah Webster). Or they could've been printing errors from the days where type had to be literally set in place, character by character.

What struck me is that both boys would make better editors than a lot of ones these days who get paid to do it.

And better than LOTS of folks who post on Facebook! Here's one example.

Yesterday I learned that the "Eerie" Canal is a real thing.

How's THAT for strange?

While I'm glad someone knows how to spell the eerily spelled word "eerie," I remain distressed that the canal itself, with such a rich and patriotic history, has been reduced to superstition.

The Erie Canal features in one of our family's favorite stories. Being from upstate New York, Mom was particularly proud of DeWitt Clinton's Folly—the Erie Canal, completed in 1825.

(BTW, Google gladly provides multiple fascinating histories it.)

Children in upstate New York grew up learning about the canal and singing "The Erie Canal" song.

When we were kids, Pete Seeger recorded it, one of the few pieces of music in the '60s that Mom approved of and would sing along with.

Our littlest sister, who loved to belt out a song, was impressed.

"I've got a mule and her name is Sal,

Fifteen miles on the Erie Canal.

She's a good old worker and a good old pal,

Fifteen miles on the Erie Canal."

An Eerie Story

And the chorus:

"Low bridge, everybody down.

Low bridge, yeah we're coming to a town.

And you'll always know your neighbor,

you'll always know your pal,

If ya ever navigated on the Erie Canal."

Today, there's nothing "eerie" about the canal, except that, sadly, by 1902 the railroads were too competitive and by 1959, the St. Lawrence Seaway was completed, allowing for larger ships to make the same journey.

The canal outlived its usefulness.

The Erie Canalway is now a national park, and you can still travel on parts of it.

Happily, the sentiments of the song remain: hard work together makes for good friends and neighbors, and In life, you need to be prepared to duck!

Mom should've ducked when she asked us one day if we knew what her first job was.

Littlest sister yelled, "Digging the Erie Canal!"

She was serious!

We collapsed in paroxysms of laughter. That would've made Mom about 100 years older than she really was.

She allowed that she often felt like it.

Dad bought her a commemorative shovel for her next birthday.

He's lucky she didn't hit him over the head with it.

Low bridge, indeed!

You'll always know your neighbor if you join us at Island Presbyterian Church's Beach Worship, 8 a.m. on Sundays, at the end of Whitecap. Bring your chair, your beverage, and your well-behaved pets on a leash.

Or navigate your way to the sanctuary at 10 a.m., Fortuna Bay and Gypsy, for a more traditional service. You'll find additional info on our Facebook page or at our website, along with links to livestream or zoom the service..

No need to bring your shovel!



Sandcastle By LL Imagery LLC.

Yard of the Month



The Island gardeners selected Melody and Alton Guzeldere's home as July yard of the month. They have unusual palms, coconut and Christmas palms mixed with plumeria, colorful vincas and more. Drive by 15241 Caravel and enjoy!

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Did Ya' Hear?

By Mary Craft
mkay512@aol.com

Business Briefs

Chef Gail Huesmann and Chef Vita Traina Jarrin are moving back to be near family in Chicago. The A La Mode Gelateria near Scuttlebutts is for sale. Call 708-721-0375 for more info.

Hangout Ramen Restaurant has a new chef that came on board about 1 - 2 weeks ago. He has previously worked in San Francisco and Dallas. The food is great and you are offered a miso soup after seated. It did not take over an hour to get my meal like it did my previous visit. They are open 11 am - 9 pm and closed Wednesdays. To order ahead call 867-1031 They are located near Spanky's Liquor.

Marker 37 now has Steak night every Thursday night starting at 5:00. For eighteen dollars you get a steak, baked potato, Greek salad and a roll.

Hardknocks is the only brunch on the Island but fortunately it is a great one with a large selection on the menu. There is Diablo shrimp n cheese grits which is what I order every time. Bagel with lox and cream cheese is not something you can easily find in South Texas. Of course, everyone's favorite biscuits and gravy. There is also an extensive Bloody Mary table. Brunch is served on Sundays 10 am - 2 pm.



Hardknocks Sunday Brunch.

Market in the Park at Billish park will feature lots of nautical items and some new vendors on Saturday, July 16th 9 am - 4 pm. Lucy's Nursery on Wheels will be there with lots of flowers.

Padre Island Farmers Market will be at the Island Presbyterian Church on Thursday, July 21st 4 - 8 pm.



Padre Island Farmers Market.

Farah's is celebrating their 30th anniversary on Sunday, July 24th all day. More details next issue.



Singer/Songwriter Stevie Start is taking a hiatus from performing for now due to health concerns but you can still enjoy him performing his original song on Youtube. The Thank God it's Padre video produced in 2019 features the song and many Islanders and Island sites.

You can also purchase related products on his Facebook page.



Stevie Start



Island Bowlers.

The Art Faire will be at Shorty's in Port on Sunday, July 24th 2 - 8 pm. It will feature original works by local artists. Live music will begin at 3 pm with Rudolf Llanes and at 7 pm Ty Dietz will perform.

Bowlero is the only place in town to go bowling. There were 12 of us who took the Moon's Padre Shuttle Bus. We reserved four lanes for 2.5 hours and during that time everyone had a huge smile on their face. There were cheers for strikes and spares but I must add there were also gutter balls. None of us had played in 20 plus years and one of the two that still had their bowling ball had to drill the holes larger. I suggest you order pizza which is easy to eat while you wait your turn and don't forget socks.

Palapas over Texas provides beautiful ways to get that shade we need. They are based in Beaumont but do many of their projects on the Island including outdoor bars, kitchens, shaded furniture and more. Call 281-549-6691



Palapas bar.



Palapas over Texas.

The **GasBuddy** app gives the nearby gas prices so you know if it is worth filling up in town.

Sephora departments are leaving all JC Penney stores by the end of the year. Sephora received a permit for a \$500,000 construction bid in Moore Plaza.

The **Whitecap Preserve Development** is now called Whitecap North Padre. A large sign has been placed at the corner of Compass and Commodores. A gentleman at the site stated that insulated concrete forms (ICF) homes will be built there. The cost is 5 -10% more than wood construction but the savings in energy make it no more expensive. He talked about the house in Galveston that was the only one left in its neighborhood after Hurricane Katrina. A member of the dredge company stated canals bordering Whiskey homes and some of the Dasmariñas homes will not be bulkheaded but will slope toward the water. Presently it is difficult to get facts from developers so this was all I could uncover, but cannot get confirmed.

Something random but useful:

I had an indentation in my rug from a chair so I put three ice cubes in it it waited few hours to dry then fluffed it up with my toes. It worked! So I fixed the rest of them.



Island Market IGA lemon bars.

Island Market IGA find of the week is their lemon bars found in the pastry section. Next time I am going to check out the pimento dip my friends rave about. Not surprising that our friends at the Island Market were one of the biggest contributors to the Island Blast.

2022 Island Blast Sponsors

Thank you all that came out and watched the 2022 Island Blast honoring the brave, our military, our veterans and those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

On behalf of the Island Blast, we would like to thank everyone that donated for their generosity in supporting the 2022 Fireworks Show. Even though the list below does not recognize each and every contribution, we would like to give special recognition to the donors listed below for their extra bit of generosity:

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Thank you to everyone that made a contributions so that we could put on a spectacular display! We look forward to putting on a great show in 2023! On behalf of all of those that enjoyed the 2022 Island Blast, thank you again for your generous gifts and for making the show happen.

Sincerely Grateful,
Nick Colosi and Todd Hunter Jr.
Island Blast

Boat Educations Class

Saturday, July 16
Padre Island
Yacht Club

The Padre Island Yacht Club is holding a boater education class conducted by Steve Chaney, a Texas Parks and Wildlife Volunteer and Instructor, new and experienced boaters from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 16.

The event is at the Padre Island Yacht Club, at the west end of Whitecap Boulevard. To register, go to TPWD site: tpwd.elementlms.com. The cost is \$25.00 and includes lunch. This is a Boater Education class. Not the Boater Instructor class.

For questions or volunteer information, contact Steve Chaney at 361-533-2860.



CC Beach Operations removed blown up sand at the parking lot, seawall, ramps and beach showers.

Change of Command



Capt. Chris Jason turned over the helm of NASCC to Capt. Ty Jurica, during a change of command ceremony at the Catalina Club, July 1.

Rear Adm. Darryl Walker, Commander, Combined Joint Task Force CYBER, Tenth Fleet, was the presiding official and guest speaker.

Following the ceremony, Jason retired after 25 years of service in the U.S. Navy.



Bob Hall Pier by Eric Dees.

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Sports Talk Special to The Island Moon



Janos Peter Weissmuller-Swimmer

By Dotson Lewis

Dotson's Note: On June 2, 1904 Janos (Johann) Peter Weissmuller was born to German parents in Freidorf, Romania, at the time part of the Austro-Hungarian empire. He was baptized as a Catholic three days later on June 5. On January 26, 1905 a seven-month-old Janos arrived at Ellis Island on the S.S. Rotterdam, after a trip of twelve days from Holland. Peter Weissmuller, a miner, and his wife Elizabeth nee Kersch were 27 and 24 years old respectively, and had only ten dollars along with their first-born child. They traveled by train to Windber, Pennsylvania to stay with family members. His brother Peter was born there in September. In 1908 the family moved west to Chicago, where they reunited with Elizabeth's parents, who lived on a farm nearby in a humble community of Freidorf colony immigrants. Thanks to Bill Morgan and Glenn Ward for the facts contained in this report and thanks to Bill Morgan for the photos.



Johnny Weissmuller was a hero to adults and children alike around the world, an international sex symbol and an enduring icon. Widely recognized as the definitive movie Tarzan, he was also a swimming superstar and Olympic champion long before he hit the silver screen. Still considered one of the three best swimmers of all time, he is the only person acknowledged as one of history's greatest athletes to become even more famous in another field. After his debut in "Tarzan of the Apes" in 1932, he became an international movie star in the golden era of 30's and 40's Hollywood, and his fame lasted throughout the television era – establishing him as a true worldwide phenomenon for over seven decades.

Weissmuller was a groundbreaker in many ways, one whose impact on celebrity and sports culture remains to this day. He became one of the first athletes to transcend national boundaries as a sports hero, when he won three Gold medals and the world's heart at the 1924 Olympic Games in Paris. His dominance of his sport has been unmatched to this day by any athlete; in over 8 years of official competition, he never lost a race – in events ranging from 50 meters to pentathlons and miles-long marathons – and held some records for nearly 60 years. He is still #1 on the short list of Olympic gold medal winners to have medaled in two sports, with five Gold in swimming and a Bronze in water polo. And on his way to becoming the first true male "sex symbol", Weissmuller in 1929 was one of the first sporting celebrities ever to endorse and design athletic wear.



As Tarzan

Johnny's 12 appearances as Tarzan over 17 years are the most of any actor in the most filmed franchise of all time. No other actor in film history has had such longevity portraying a character. Weissmuller defined Tarzan not just for his generation or in America, but worldwide, and through the technology of television for many generations thereafter. He was the number one box-office draw internationally for ten years, and for nearly 70 years at any given moment one of his films was being aired somewhere on the planet.

Weissmuller's convincing portrayal of a man living at one with nature and the animals, who could take on all enemies – human or beast – that threatened those he loved armed with just a knife and his skills, resonated worldwide and across all boundaries. He was the quintessential action hero, and his iconic Tarzan yell is still one of the most recognized cinema soundbites in history.

His charm, physical prowess, and sense of humor as both an athlete and in the roles of Tarzan and movie star made him beloved around the world. From a poor immigrant family, Weissmuller never forgot his origins and remained down-to-earth even as his fame skyrocketed. As remarkable as it was to gain superstardom in two fields as a sports and cultural hero, Johnny was humble, gracious, and universally admired as a good and generous man who was always willing to use his fame and skills to help others.

Perhaps most remarkable of all is that he was also a real-life hero, over the years saving numerous lives in several situations. The most notable occurred in 1927 when he dove in and saved 11 people from drowning after a tragic boating accident on Lake Michigan, while he was training for the Chicago Marathon.

He was the Founding Chairman of the Board of the International Swimming Hall of Fame, one of the first 20 inductees to the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame, and a prolific amateur golfer who won many tournaments over 50 years of playing. He also excelled as a diver, and helped to launch the nascent sports of surfing and paddleboarding.



With Jane and Boy

By 1967 he was such an icon that he appeared on the famous album cover of Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band, right behind the Beatles and within reach of Marilyn Monroe. And the extent to which his appeal crossed all political and ideological boundaries was in evidence when he died in 1984: Weissmuller was one of the only figures to receive extensive obituaries on television in nearly every country worldwide, including the Soviet Union and communist China – something almost unheard of at the time.

His international popularity throughout his lifetime had extended to many world leaders, from Japanese Crown Prince Chichibu and Ethiopian Emperor Haile Selassie to Russian president Mikhail Gorbachev and Britain's Queen Elizabeth, along with 12 U.S. Presidents. Befittingly, Weissmuller was one of the few non-heads of state ever to be afforded a 21-gun salute, at his memorial service in Beverly Hills, CA. Arranged by Senator Kennedy and President Reagan, it was a singular honor for a man who was a true American Icon.

Dotson's Other Note: Are there any of you Moon Monkeys who have never seen a Tarzan movie starring Johnny Weissmuller? Shame on you! You are invited to join us on Tuesdays at the Veterans Round Table at the Del Mar College, Center for Economic Development 9-11 AM. All are welcome and the coffee and donuts are free! You might even learn something. Questions/comments and or Letters to the Editor are welcome. My Email: dlewis1@stx.rr.com and Phone: 530-748-8475.

-30- Have fun and hang in there



By Andy Purvis

Bench, Buster or Berra

Normally I am very cautious when comparing today's athletes and their accomplishments to past superstars who are enshrined in their sports Hall of Fame. But, I am a history buff and I find myself spending my time protecting our heroes' past. A friend of mind once said about sports, he may eat, sleep and work in 2022, but he lives in 1964. I can understand what he is trying to say. Now don't misunderstand, there are times when an athlete appears on the horizon and gets off to a tremendous start. It didn't take long to see that guys like Brett Favre, Tony Gwynn and Magic Johnson were going to be special. The same may be said for "Buster" Posey, the starting catcher for the San Francisco Giants.

Buster Posey's three World Series in his first five years in the Major Leagues is reminiscent of "Yogi" Berra's start with the Yankees. "Buster Posey is the best offensive catcher in baseball today," said Kevin Kennedy. Do you agree? So, I decided to compare Buster's start to two of the very best in the game at the same position, Johnny Bench and Yogi Berra. Can you imagine an introduction of these three that would sound something like this: Larry, I would like you to meet Gerald and Johnny?

Yogi Berra's real name is Lawrence Peter Berra. He was initially called Larry by his teammates. Yogi was 21 years old when he made the big club for the Yankees, in September of 1946. Berra hit 102 home runs in his first five full seasons as a Yankee (1947-1951). He drove in 459 RBI's while batting .299. Five times, including 1950 and 1951, Berra recorded more home runs in a season, than strikeouts. Unheard of in today's game. During Game Three of the 1947 World Series, Berra hit the first pinch-hit home run in World Series history. In 1951 Yogi was voted Most Valuable Player of the American League, for the first time. He would earn that award twice more during his career (1954 and 1955). Berra and the Yankees would play and win four World Series during Berra's first five years. New York would beat the Brooklyn Dodgers twice (1947 and 1949), as well as the Philadelphia Phillies in 1950 and the New York Giants in 1951. His most remembered accomplishment was catching Don Larsen's perfect game in Game Five of the 1956 World Series against the cross-town rival Dodgers. Yogi Berra was a permanent fixture on the American League All-Star team from 1948 to 1962 (15 seasons). Yogi appeared in a total of 14 World Series as a player, winning ten championships. Berra never made more than \$65,000 a year. Yogi was inducted into the Baseball Hall-of-Fame Museum in 1972 on his second ballot.

Johnny Lee Bench joined the Cincinnati Reds in August of 1967. Bench debuted at the age of 19 and became the first catcher to win the Rookie-of-the-Year Award, in 1968. Bench was elected the National League's Most Valuable Player twice, in 1970 and 1972. Bench became the youngest player to win the MVP Award at the age of 22. He proceeded to hit 154 home runs

in his first five full seasons for the Reds (1968-1972). He also recorded 512 RBI's and batted .271. This 14-time All-Star catcher earned All-Star status in all of his first five seasons. Johnny Bench played in four World Series with the Reds, losing to the Baltimore Orioles in 1970, and the Oakland Athletics in 1974. "The Big Red Machine" finally broke through, winning back-to-back World Series in 1975 and 1976. Bench still owns the record for catchers while hitting ten grand slams in his career. Bench was known for his strength behind the plate and for having huge hands. He could hold as many as seven baseballs in one hand and once threw out Lou Brock, who was trying to steal, three times in a single game. In 1989, Bench was inducted into the Baseball Hall-of-Fame Museum on his first ballot. He also became the first individual player to be portrayed on a Wheaties cereal box. Bench's top salary never exceeded \$400,000 per year.

Gerald Dempsey "Buster" Posey, III debuted with the Giants at 22 years of age, in September of 2009. He went 3-for-4 in his first at-bat and was elected Rookie of the Year in 2010. During Buster's first five years with the San Francisco Giants (2010-2014), he hit 83 home runs and recorded 352 RBI's, while batting .308. In fairness, while comparing him to Bench and Berra, Buster only had 162 at-bats, while playing in just 45 games in 2011, as he was injured in a home-plate collision against Scott Cousins of the Miami Marlins. Buster suffered a fractured fibula and torn ligaments in his ankle, which required season-ending surgery. This injury would create changes in the rules governing plays at home plate. In Game Four of the 2010 World Series, against the Texas Rangers, Posey and Madison Bumgarner became the first rookie pitcher-catcher tandem in World Series history since Yogi Berra caught Spec Shea in Game One of the 1947 World Series for the Yankees. In 2012, during Game Five of the National League Division Series against the Cincinnati Reds, Buster became just the third catcher in MLB history to hit a grand slam in the playoffs, joining Yogi Berra and Eddie Perez. Buster was behind the plate for Matt Cain's perfect game in 2012 and caught both no hitters thrown by Tim Lincecum in 2013 and 2014. In 2012, his first All-Star year, he was elected Most Valuable Player and also received the Comeback Player-of-the-Year Award. Posey's current salary for 2022 is listed at \$12,500,000. Will Buster Posey end up being elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame?

Andy Purvis is a local author and radio personality. Please visit www.purvisbooks.com for all the latest info on his books or to listen to the new radio podcast. Andy's books are available online and can be found in the local Barnes & Noble bookstore. Andy can be contacted at purvis.andy@mygrande.net. Also listen to sports talk radio on Dennis & Andy's Q & A Session from 6-8 PM on Sportsradioc.com 1230 AM, 95.1 and 96.1 FM. The home of the Houston Astros.

Bay Surf Junior Champ



Bay Surf Jr division Champion Kate Zahn and runner up Matthew Lopez.

Photo By Leslie Wiley Jr.



Graboid and Mussels By Mandy Wiatrek Tedrow.

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Catch of the Week



My son Braxton Brammer caught his first trout this Sunday at the Ski Canals! My son Colton and my daughter Julianne helped release it back into the wild. Photo and caption by Mike Brammer.

Deep Sea Roundup



Lady Leaders of the Deep Sea Round Up By Leslie Wiley Jr.



Piggy Perch Winners at the 2022 Deep Sea Roundup.



Island aerial by Doc McGregor II.



Photo by Ronnie Narmour.

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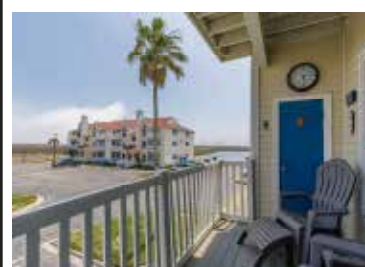
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14911 Village Beach Dr. 2/2 gorgeous poolside townhome just a quick walk to the beach! 1041 sq. ft. & fully furnished. **\$485,000.** Call **Kim Mogford** 361-434-8522



13929 Coquina Bay Prepare to be impressed with this beautiful 3 bedroom, 3 bath home with an office/study & 2 dining areas **\$479,900.** Call **Cindy** 361-549-5557



15016 Beachwalk Loop 3/2.5 townhome located at Leeward Bay Townhomes. Short walk to the beach. Complex has a heated pool. **\$424,900.** Call **Charlie** 361-443-2499



1521 Sea Oak 3/2/1 home located in Shoreline Oaks subdivision. Close to Flour Bluff schools, shopping, and restaurants. 1,588 sq. ft. **\$239,000.** Call **Terry Cox** 361-549-7703.

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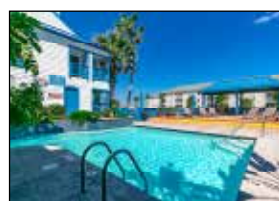
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15425 Fortuna Bay #306
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4/2/2 Waterfront with Pool
\$4,500/month



14149 La Blanquilla
4/3/2 New construction
\$3,900/month



14266 Natal Plum
4/3/2
\$4,000/month



2309 Vialoux
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13833 Hawksnest Bay Dr.
4/3/3
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13741 Hawksnest Bay Dr.
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On the Rocks

By Jay Gardner

I'd like to thank County Commissioner Brent Chesney and County Judge Barbara Canales for joining us at the Island Strategic Action Committee meeting Tuesday. We were talking about the reauthorization of the TIRZ #2, which needs to get into the spotlight as both the County and the City are starting to work on their budgets for 2023. It's never too early to plan. The good news is that the county is willing and ready to work with the city on moving forward with the TIRZ reauthorization; they're in. We talked about some cutting-edge projects, and I'd like to think that progress was made in an area that has remained fallow for too long. I look forward to the next step of good things for the Island, city, and county all. Lets' do this!

Roadkill Willie and an un-cold Frio

Roadkill Willie turned, uh, well, he had a birthday this past weekend, and we headed up to the Frio for a weekend of wasted youth despite the reports that the river was "low-to-non-existent." Anticipation ran high as we passed through the furnace known as Hondo, where the sign says, well, if you've been there you know. We played golf for the first time since I can't remember when, and the course was actually in good shape. The town was jumping, and there

were a couple of shows at House Pasture. It was good to get out for a bit and chew some familiar territory.

I know. I'm avoiding the subject. BUT. There was some water in the river. The first crossing was almost depressing, but when we got up around 7 Bluff, there was some water flowing over the low water crossing, and tons of people in the river. It was welcome respite and felt like an old friend relaxing under the canopy of bald cypress. Of course half the people we ran into and visited with were from Corpus or Portland. Fitting. Speaking of old friends, my buddy JT Naylor is headed into town. Something about a CCAD change of command or something. I digress, as I always do.

Birds and Beach Bits hits 600!

Well folks, this is my 600th article and I'm going to exercise my option to cut this one short. My first article was at the request of Mike Ellis, whose brainchild you're currently reading. My initial columns were called "Birds and Beach Bits" and they dated back to September of 2009. This institution we call the Island Moon has come a long way, and I wonder if Mike knew how this passion of his was going to evolve. I have to hand it to Dale and Jan (and the rest of the Moon Monkeys, past and present) for picking up the ball and running with it. See y'all next week.



Backwater Adventures

By Joey Farah
Farah's Fishing Adventures

Fishing cont. from A1



Look for the best fishing to be when we get a boost of tide in the bays from the surf. Big trout like this one will come in with the flow, as well as cool oxygenated water

August Redfish Rodeo!

Looking ahead August is going to be REDFISH RODEO! Historically redfish will school up in groups and become aggressive in the late summer heat. We drift fish for them in shallow water and watch them explode on our topwaters and strike our shallow running lures. The fight these fish deliver far exceeds that of the classic and popular speckled trout. We usually spend the first two hours chasing trout or looking for big schools of redfish in herds during the light winds of dawn's first light. When the sun runs high in the sky and the winds pick up we cover the vast flats skipping soft plastics through the scattered sand pockets. Blind casting but keeping a visual with your lures will bring each angler to seeing these redfish boil up behind the baits and slam them to the bottom before racing off pulling drag and bending the rod tips over.

Never do they give up easily, multiple drag peeling runs and trying to cut you off under the boat is a daily exciting experience. We have been using the DOA 5.5jerk Shad with a 1/16-1/8th ounce jig head to easily cover the flats with long casts and a lifelike soft plastic. This bait looks a lot like a ballyhoo, a tide running bait from the ocean that is trout candy! Bright colors at dawn and I've been moving to natural or dark colors after 9 a.m.



Find time for your Family Memories now, days in the sun live forever.

can easily move from surf zones to the bay flats with a few hours of flipping those fins. Much farther than just the first mile or so some of these fish school up and can move in and out for a matter of miles. Many times the low tide and brown, salty water can raise the salinity and lower the oxygen content of the bay waters. This alone will move mature gamefish to become lethargic and non-aggressive, especially during hot daytime hours.

Let's find YOUR DAY in August to spend the day hunting fish and building lifetime memories with friends and family, I promise you will forget about any negative energy you have been carrying around, even it is just for the day! Follow all of our hookups on FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM@jfarah72, and Joey FARAH'S Backwater Fishing!

Staying on the flow, will bring you home with more success. Monitor tide levels with various spots close to your everyday routines. Certain bridges, docks, channel markers, even the tide line on the roadway on your way home each day. High tides will bring in clean blue water, those are your best afternoons to slip out and catch a few fish with the late sunsets we are having. Even a slow walk along the bulkheads or shorelines for an hour will bring a few fish to hand to release the soul and maybe bring some fresh fish to your weekly diet. When it's low and dirty head towards the Gulf passes, when it's looking green and incoming tide spread your hunt to the grass flats and ICW canal.

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Sudoku

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Going Easy On You...

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

Knuckle-Cracker

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

Mind-Numbing Frustration

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

Brain-Buster

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

Across

- 1. Response to "Are not!"
- 6. Pipsqueak
- 11. Nickname for Margaret
- 14. Hollandaise, e.g.
- 15. "PG-13" giver, say
- 16. Swiss river
- 17. Privileged group
- 19. Bathing suit top
- 20. Skating jump
- 21. From __ Z
- 22. Boston hoopsters, for short
- 24. Excluded from a 17-Across
- 28. Cowboy hat
- 31. Southwestern Indian
- 32. Like yesterday's fashions
- 33. "One moment"
- 37. Part of a play
- 38. Sudden increase in power
- 40. Altar words
- 41. Drivers who won't let you pass
- 44. Marseilles morning
- 46. Not imaginary
- 47. Formal act
- 49. It gets the grease
- 53. God with a bow and arrow
- 54. __ Lingus: Irish carrier
- 55. "Ah, me"
- 59. Doofus
- 60. Altar offering
- 64. Bout ender, briefly
- 65. "Eight Days __"
- 66. Sales rep
- 67. Sun. talk
- 68. Months and months
- 69. Grinch creator

Moon Crossword

Crossword Solution on classifieds page

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16		
17					18					19		
20					21			22	23			
			24	25			26	27				
28	29	30					31					
32					33					34	35	36
37					38	39				40		
41			42	43				44	45			
			46				47	48				
49	50	51					52					
53						54			55	56	57	58
59					60	61	62			63		
64					65				66			
67					68					69		

Down

- 1. Largest continent
- 2. Tailless cat
- 3. Melody
- 4. Leopardlike cats
- 5. Not 'neath
- 6. Son of Poseidon
- 7. "The __ the Worlds"
- 8. List ender: Abbr.
- 9. Fam. reunion attendee
- 10. Moral principle
- 11. Artist Picasso
- 12. Keep one's __ the ground
- 13. Clutch
- 18. "The Censor" of Rome
- 23. Charles Lamb's pen name
- 25. Put into action
- 26. Ruffian
- 27. Stockings
- 28. Warm up in the ring
- 29. Mexican food staple
- 30. "1911; C󭯠 __ usted?"
- 33. PSAT takers
- 34. In __: as originally placed
- 35. Revise text
- 36. Ice cream holder
- 38. Drench
- 39. Like the storied duckling
- 42. Eins, zwei, __
- 43. Progress
- 44. West of "My Little Chickadee"
- 45. Like a zoo escapee
- 47. Arab chieftains
- 48. Shore bird
- 49. Glasgow residents
- 50. Earth tremor
- 51. Excited about
- 52. Toddler in a pool, e.g.
- 56. Stead
- 57. Landers and Sothern
- 58. Some NCOs
- 61. Lamb's mom
- 62. Narc's org.
- 63. Neon or freon

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A large brushfire broke out in Kleberg County over the weekend as emergency crews attempted to remove this truck which became stuck after entering private property. The fire was brought under control before it threatened houses.

Police Blotter

July 5 - July 11

JFK Causeway

Disturbance

13400 block SPID 7 p.m. July 6 Indecent Exposure/Public Intoxication/Resisting Arrest

Traffic

13 Traffic Stops
SPID/West

Crimes against Person

14700 block Dasmarnas 5 a.m. July 7 Assault
13700 block Captain Kidd 11 a.m. July 6 Harassment
15400 block SPID 11 p.m. July 7 Assault
Crimes against Property
15300 block Bonasse 4 pm. July 10 Theft of Services under \$100
14400 block SPID 9 p.m. July 6 Trespassing
14500 block SPID 7 p.m. July 6 Theft of Services
15300 block Mutiny Noon July 5 Unauthorized Use of a Motor Vehicle
14300 block SPID 3 a.m. July 5 Criminal Mischief \$750-\$2500
15200 block SPID 2 a.m. July 5 Theft of Services
13900 block Fortuna Bay 10 p.m. July 11 Burglary of a Motor Vehicle
13900 block Eaglesnest 10 a.m. July 7 Theft of Services
14000 block Hawksnest 1 a.m. July 7 Theft from a Vehicle under \$100
15400 block Seamount Cay 6 p.m. July 5 Theft of Services

Disturbance

13400 block SPID 7 p.m. July 6 Indecent Exposure/Public Intoxication/Resisting Arrest
Gypsy/Whitecap 6 p.m. July 9 Public Intoxication
16100 block SPID Noon July 9 Fire
15400 block Cruiser 6 p.m. July 5 Fireworks

Suspicious Person

15000 block SPID Noon July 10 SPID/Nemo Court 1 a.m. July 6
14300 block Goldfish 2 a.m. July 5

Traffic

81 Traffic Stops
15200 block SPID 9 p.m. July 10 Crash
15300 block SPID 4 a.m. July 9 Crash
15300 block Cruiser 8 a.m. July 8 Crash
15300 block Cruiser 2 a.m. July 8 Hit and Run

SPID/Commodores 10 p.m. July 6 DWI
14900 block SPID 8 p.m. July 6 Crash
15200 block SPID 9 p.m. July 5 DWI
14400 block SPID 5 p.m. July 5 Crash
15300 block SPID 4 p.m. July 5 Hit and Run
Port O Call/Gypsy 4 p.m. July 11 Crash
15600 block Dyna 3 p.m. July 8 Crash

SPID/Gulf side

Crimes against Person

15200 block Windward 10 p.m. July 9 Assault with Injury
15200 block Windward 11 a.m. Assault/Interfere with Emergency Call/Assault
15100 block Leeward 1 a.m. July 5 Assault
15200 block Windward 11 a.m. July 5 Assault/Interfere with Emergency Call
Crimes against Property
15200 block Windward 10 p.m. July 10 Trespassing
15200 block Windward 10 a.m. July 10 Trespassing
Bikini/La Concha 6 p.m. July 11 Trespassing
6500 block Gulf Beach 9 a.m. July 10 Theft of Services
6500 block 8 a.m. July 10 Theft \$750-\$2500

Disturbance

16100 block SPID Noon July 9 Fire
14700 block Whitecap 11 p.m. July 10 Noise Ordinance Violation
14800 block Granada 6 p.m. July 7 Terroristic Threat
14900 block Packery View 11 p.m. Noise Ordinance Violation
11500 block Gulf Beach Midnight July 5 Fireworks

Traffic

56 Traffic Stops
15800 block SPID Noon July 9 Crash
15200 Windward Midnight July 10 Hit and Run
15800 block SPID Noon July 9 Crash
11500 block Gulf Beach 10 a.m. Crash
SH 361/Zahn Road 9 a.m. July 5 Parking Violation
6300 block SH 361 11 p.m. July 7 Crash
6300 block SH 361 4 p.m. July 7 Hit and Run
6800 block SH 361 July 6 DWI

Full Transparency and Disclosure

PIPOA News by Marvin Jones, President



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

Short-term rentals (STRs)- The PIPOA neighborhoods have been protected from short-term rentals by the City Council, leaving the single-family RS-6 zoning in place. Now the short-term rental issue has moved to the new Whitecap development. Will there be short-term rentals in the Whitecap development adjacent to PIPOA homeowners? That is, PIPOA owners on the boundary of the Whitecap development may back up to new properties that allow short-term rentals. The City Council has not approved the plans for the Whitecap development. Stay tuned for more information on this.

Boat Ramp- The Caravel Boat Ramp has been resurfaced and is open for use. The next boat ramp to be resurfaced is Cabo De Bara. The resurfacing will begin in September after Labor Day.

Theft- The flags at Billish Park have been stolen again. This is the third time the American and Texas flags have been stolen from the flagpole. It costs the PIPOA money to replace the flags and rope used to raise and lower the flags.

We have discovered that people will park their boat trailer and truck in the street next to the PIPOA office. Then they go and get the hose attached to the PIPOA building. Subsequently, they use the hose and PIPOA water to wash down their boats. This is not the crime of the century, but it is stealing water from the PIPOA. How sad a few people have no respect for others' property. Has anyone noticed the increase in crime reported in the Island Moon?

Towing- Last week, seven vehicles and trailers were towed. You can purchase

your sticker for \$10 at the PIPOA Office located at 14015 Fortuna Bay Drive.

Bulkheads- The two contractors employed by the PIPOA continue to repair bulkheads. If you have a problem with your bulkhead, please contact the PIPOA Office at 361-949-7025. Ask for Gary Klepperich. It is important that bulkhead problems be reported sooner than later.

Aerators- The PIPOA places aerators at canal ends. Currently, there are aerators at twelve locations. The aerators require electric power to run the pump forcing air into the canal water. The purpose of the pumped air is to give fish more oxygen and help prevent stagnant water. This increases the quality of the canal water. It is necessary to tie the aerator electric line into an adjacent homeowner's electricity. The PIPOA reimburses the homeowner for the electricity. Unfortunately, the IRS requires the PIPOA to submit a 1099 on behalf of the homeowner as income. Some homeowners prefer not to receive a 1099. Therefore, they stop allowing the PIPOA to access their electricity. Usually, another neighboring homeowner will step up and allow access to their electricity. The homeowners have requested and are entitled to privacy for their cooperation. The last thing the homeowners want is someone stalking the aerators by looking over their fences and walking on their bulkheads. As I write this article, all aerators are working with the exception of one in which the homeowner has rejected access to his electricity.

These aerators do need repair from time to time. The PIPOA has a contractor who has been working for the PIPOA for at least a decade. He repairs the aerators and installs new locations when needed. In addition, this contractor takes water quality tests. The tests are for oxygen levels in the water. The tests are sent to the TCEQ. TCEQ has not sent a violation notice to the PIPOA. The test results are posted on the PIPOA's website. Let's all remember that the water in our canals comes from the Gulf of Mexico.

Turtle Strandings in June

Donna J. Shaver, Ph.D.

Chief, Division of Sea Turtle Science and Recovery, National Park Service, Padre Island National Seashore

During June 2022, 116 uncategorized sea turtle strandings were recorded in Texas. Not included were 5 post-hatchlings, all Kemp's ridley, and 9 incidental captures, including 1 loggerhead, 2 green, and 6 Kemp's ridley.

The 116 stranded turtles recorded in June included 56 loggerheads, 46 greens, 11 Kemp's ridleys, 2 hawksbills, and 1 turtle of unidentified species.

- The 116 stranded turtles recorded in June included 56 loggerheads, 46 greens, 11 Kemp's ridleys, 2 hawksbills, and 1 turtle of unidentified species
- The 10-year-average for sea turtle strandings in Texas during June (2012-2021) is 73 strandings.
- Of 116 strandings found in June 2022, most [95/116 (81.9%)] were found in south Texas, including 78 (67.2%) in zone 20 and 17 (14.7%) in zone 21.

ALL STRANDINGS 2022

Total Monthly Texas Sea Turtle Strandings								
Strandings	Loggerhead	Green	Kemp's ridley	Leatherback	Hawksbill	Olive ridley	Unidentified	Total
Jan	2	99						101
Feb	2	416						418
Mar	4	33						37
Apr	34	85	26	1			3	149
May	108	59	16				4	187
Jun	56	46	16		2		1	121
Jul								
Aug								
Sep								
Oct								
Nov								
Dec								
Grand Total	206	738	58	1	2		8	1,013

Monthly numbers of all stranded sea turtles recorded in Texas during 2022. Includes turtles that stranded for any reason excluding incidental captures

INCIDENTAL CAPTURES

Monthly Texas Sea Turtle Incidental Captures								
Incidental Captures	Loggerhead	Green	Kemp's ridley	Leatherback	Hawksbill	Olive ridley	Unidentified	Total
Jan	1	4						5
Feb		7						7
Mar		2						2
Apr		2	2					4
May	2	11	3					16
Jun	1	2	6					9
Jul								
Aug								
Sep								
Oct								
Nov								
Dec								
Grand Total	4	28	11					43

Monthly numbers of incidentally captured sea turtles recorded in Texas during 2022. Includes turtles caught during recreational or commercial fishing, dredging operations, or power plant water intakes

Turtle Count

The total numbers of nests found this year, by species and area.

Kemp's Ridley

So far this year, 275 nests have been confirmed on the Texas coast including (north to south in state):

- 3 Bolivar Peninsula
- 4 Galveston Island
- 4 Brazoria County, N. of Surfside
- 0 Surfside Beach
- 1 Quintana Beach
- 0 Bryan Beach
- 0 Brazoria County, N. of Sargent Beach
- 0 Sargent Beach
- 3 Matagorda Peninsula
- 1 Magnolia Beach
- 0 Matagorda Island
- 8 San Jose Island
- 14 Mustang Island
- 147 North Padre Island, including 131 at Padre Island National Seashore
- 75 South Padre Island
- 15 Boca Chica Beach

Loggerheads

So far this year, 3 nests have been confirmed on the Texas coast, including (north to south in state):

- 1 Brazoria County, N. of Surfside
- 1 North Padre Island, including 1 at Padre Island National Seashore
- 1 Boca Chica Beach

Green Turtles

So far this year, 6 nests have been confirmed on the Texas coast, including (north to south in state):

- 1 Mustang Island
- 4 North Padre Island, including 4 at Padre Island National Seashore
- 1 South Padre Island

Leatherbacks

So far this year, 0 nests have been confirmed on the Texas coast, including (north to south in state):

- 0 North Padre Island, including 0 at Padre Island National Seashore
- 0 South Padre Island

Texas Drilling Permit and Completion Statistics for June 2022

The Railroad Commission of Texas issued a total of 1,146 original drilling permits in June 2022 compared to 739 in June 2021. The June 2022 total includes 1,013 permits to drill new oil or gas wells, 11 to re-enter plugged wellbores and five for re-completions of existing wellbores.

The breakdown of well types for original drilling permits in June 2022 is 263 oil, 113 gas, 726 oil or gas, 35 injection and nine

other permits. In June 2022, Commission staff processed 534 oil, 164 gas and 594 injection completions for new drills, re-entries and re-completions, compared to 507 oil, 158 gas and 128 injection completions in June 2021.

Total well completions processed for 2022 year-to-date for new drills, re-entries and re-completions are 5,804 compared to 4,385 recorded during the same period in 2021.

Drilling Permits and Completions from the Railroad Commission of Texas

DISTRICT	PERMITS TO DRILL NEW OIL/GAS HOLES	NEW OIL COMPLETIONS	NEW GAS COMPLETIONS
(1) SAN ANTONIO AREA	128	58	26
(2) REFUGIO AREA	75	30	19
(3) SOUTHEAST TEXAS	22	5	1
(4) DEEP SOUTH TEXAS	25	2	4
(5) EAST CENTRAL TX	8	4	0
(6) EAST TEXAS	42	13	36
(7B) WEST CENTRAL TX	28	10	1
(7C) SAN ANGELO AREA	71	45	1
(8) MIDLAND	523	213	29
(8A) LUBBOCK AREA	24	5	0
(9) NORTH TEXAS	46	17	13
(10) PANHANDLE	21	10	10
TOTAL	1,013	412	142



Business Tip: 7 ways small business owners can cope with inflation

By Katie Galan | Regional Director, BBB.

U.S. consumers are experiencing the most significant 12-month increase in prices since 1981, and many small business owners are feeling the pressure. With the inflation rate hovering around 8%, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistic's Consumer Price Index, many small business owners are experiencing increased costs to conduct business and shrinking profit margins. Desperate to remain profitable, entrepreneurs are looking at how they can cut costs or raise prices without scaring off their customers.

High inflation rates are driven mainly by significant increases in food, shelter and gas prices. Increased energy prices, supply chain disruptions, and labor shortages add to a business owner's expenses. With so many cost increases, what can small businesses do? BBB recommends the following to minimize the impact of inflation on your business.

Ways your small business can cope with inflation.

- **Reduce your expenses.** Be intentional about where your business is spending its money. This means reviewing your current spending and determining if it aligns with your strategy. If employees are wasting office supplies or delivery drivers are taking the scenic route, address the issue. Be sure to assess the revenue being brought in by your online advertising strategy and make adjustments if it isn't providing value.
- **Stock up** on necessary supplies. If there are items you know you'll use in the year ahead, buy as much as you can now. You may get bulk discounts, and you can minimize the impact of future price increases. Stocking up on supplies will allow you to avoid passing on increased costs to your customers in case prices continue to grow.
- **Have multiple suppliers.** Having one supplier for every item your company needs

makes sourcing simple and helps develop strong relationships with vendors. However, if you have numerous suppliers, you'll have options if one can't get you what you need or their prices increase.

• **Evaluate your products and services.** Identify what products and services are the most profitable. Remember that consumers might be open to lower-priced options to maintain their own budget. They also may be interested in paying more for items and services that make a stressful time more manageable. Consider temporarily cutting services or expenses to better focus on what generates the best results.

• **Raise prices wisely.** If you must raise your prices to compensate for inflation, do so wisely. Don't increase your prices so much that it causes many of your customers to purchase from your competitors. Instead, raise your prices just enough to offset the impact of inflation and ensure that you can keep your small business profitable. Also, don't be sneaky about pricing by resorting to drip pricing or hidden fees. Instead, be transparent. Let customers know about the increase and help them understand why.

• **Prioritize customer service.** When consumers know you care about their satisfaction, they're more likely to do business with you, even if you must raise prices. Don't skimp on service by being understaffed. If you don't have the budget for a full-time employee, look into freelancers and part-time staff.

• **Use technology.** Artificial intelligence, automation and self-serve customer options can reduce costs and take pressure off existing staff in an already tight labor market. Take the time to research technology that you could implement in your business to help reduce costs and maximize efficiency.

Commercial Gulf Shrimp Season Opens Friday, July 15

The Gulf of Mexico commercial shrimp season for both state and federal waters will reopen 30 minutes after sunset on Friday, July 15, 2022. Biologists evaluate the biological, social and

economic impact when deciding the opening date to maximize the benefits to the industry and the public.

In making its determination, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's (TPWD) Coastal Fisheries Division used the best available data from samples collected during routine trawls and bag seines in June.

"The annual mid-May closure protects brown shrimp until they can reach larger, more valuable sizes during their major period of emigration from the bays to the Gulf of Mexico," said TPWD's Coastal Fisheries Division Director Robin Riechers.

Federal waters (from 9 to 200 nautical miles offshore) will open at the same time that state waters will open. The National Marine Fisheries Service chose to adopt rules compatible with those adopted by Texas.

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By Del Smith

The Barnacle Line

Okay folks I just know you are on pins and needles wanting to find out about "SHE". And just to tickle your interest, I want to, in advance, thank and praise The PLATTERS and those voices from the past, for borrowing some of their wonderful angst. So here is;

Mad Woman Inn, part two;

She was tall, willowy, with flawless skin, perfect hair and wearing beach clothes from the high priced counter; with the crystal chandelier hanging over it. I looked over at my new sea buddy, he looked at me, raised his eyebrows, and shook his head. Then all of any possible hopes were dashed when her male counterpart came in and picked her up, thanked Nan for the where-to-find-it info and walked out of our lives.

I shrugged and said, "Oh well, can't really see her on a three o'clock watch, changing the head sail in ten footers, can you?"

He chuckled and replied, "No, don't believe she is boat-woman material."

"Boat-woman? You mean a gal that really likes small, damp, confined places without a place for a thirty-shoe tree? — One that loves to varnish and to helm on a three o'clock watch, while you get some sleep?", I came back with. "They don't exist!"

"You know, you might be right.", he said

About then our conversation dropped off. Nan went back to the kitchen, John started to mumble and grumble about the music on the bar music machine. Matti was ignoring it all, as she was on the phone with her sweetie and the giver of that ring on her left hand; the good doctor in California. Her ticket and a visa to the good ole US of A. — It was about halfway through John's fumbling with the stack of tapes that the moon lifted it's upper limb above the reef. Out there, underneath the palms and over the dock where the dinghy was tied.

The old sailor, swept his hat off, ran his fingers through his hair and said, "You know, I almost had one once."

John behind the bar announced, "Ah-ha! Found it! The Platters!", and immediately pushed it into the machine.

I asked, "Had what?"

Matti just kept on listening to that ticket to all

of the Wal-Mart's and Burger King's in that land of plenty north of this little sandy, sand flea ridden island.

"A boat woman.", he said, as the, turned up music came on.

"THEY ASKED ME HOW I KNEW - MY TRUE LOVE WAS TRUE"

"Really?, I questioned?"

"Yep, it almost happened."

"I OF COURSE REPLIED - SOMETHING HERE INSIDE - CANNOT BE DENIED"

He swirled his wet bar ring around a little bit, glanced up at the moon dappled water, streaming over the reef and lapping on the water's edge and proceeded to tell me a tale. A story out of his past life.

The old sailor took a long swallow of his beer and told me about a lady he met on a dive boat over in the Bahamas. A story of love blossoming as they sailed between dive sites and bon-fires on the rocky beaches, in this Atlantic archipelago. She, just a passenger, he a crew member on that sailing, diving, week long adventure.

Back in the states, her disembarking was heart rendering for both. They had one last night together, away from the boat that was going back out, with another group, the following day. They gave their promises of staying in contact and their professions of love on that, oh, so short night.

Sure enough a letter was waiting the next time he came back in to port. As it did in the weeks that followed, each time he came back to unload, provision, and help the next group that wanted to experience the clear Bahamian waters.

They made plans to be together again, when his time off from the dive boat allowed them to be together on his sailboat on the Gulf of Mexico coast, a long way from her east coast rat-race life style.

That week, together underneath sunny skies, plying the smooth waters behind the barriers islands, brought them even closer together. Exploring each other minds and bodies, in and over the warm Laguna water.

Well fooled ya, didn't I? "SHE" was just a passing ship-in-the-night. Now we are on to an, whole other direction with this thing. Ya gotta tune in again next week to see if I was able to end this mess in some sort of acceptable manner.

Nature Notes

The Many Bees of Texas

Celeste Silling

Walking on the trails at Gulf coast Bird Observatory the other day, I happened to see a stunningly brilliant insect on a flower. It was a metallic green color, so shiny it looked like a jewel. After snapping a few out-of-focus pictures, I headed inside to try to identify it.

It turns out that this bug was actually a bee! It was a Green Sweat Bee, to be exact. This type of bee nests underground in tunnels, kind of like ants. They are generalist pollinators, visiting everything from garden flowers to watermelons, strawberries, and peppers. Some bees of this variety supplement their nectar with a salty snack- human sweat. But they don't usually sting or bite, so I don't mind donating a few drops to their cause.



A Green Sweat Bee pollinating a Milkweed plant. Photo by Gwen M.

In researching my Sweat Bee, I realized something: there are a lot of bees out there. Worldwide, there are over 20,000 species of bees, with approximately 3,600 species native to North America and about 800 in Texas. Many of these species are difficult to discern from one another in the wild, especially when they're zipping around at top speed, but there are definitive markers that differentiate them at rest.

In Texas, we have a wide variety of species including carpenter bees, sweat bees,

bumblebees, and cuckoo bees. The bees that we are perhaps most familiar with are European honey bees, which aren't even native to our area. They were brought over hundreds of years ago by European colonists. But as it turns out, there are hundreds of other bee species doing important work right outside our door.

In Texas, most plant pollination is conducted by bees. In a single day, a female bee can visit hundreds of flowers, spreading pollen to each one as she goes. Pollination is perhaps the most important process behind agriculture and ecosystems. In fact, the bees provide about 3 billion dollars' worth of pollination service to US agriculture annually. So, needless to say, they have a lot on their fuzzy little shoulders.

Unfortunately, many native bees are currently experiencing very concerning population declines. This is largely due to habitat loss, specifically loss of grasslands, savannas, and woodlands. The plants and space that these insects require to live are rapidly disappearing, and non-native ornamental garden flowers can't make up the difference.

So how can we help our buzzy friends? Well, bees have two essential needs that we can help fulfill: food and shelter. Bees need nectar and pollen from native flowers, so try planting some native plants in your yard, including an array of herbaceous and woody species. Bees also need a nice place to lay their

eggs. Most Texas bees are ground nesters, like the Green Sweat Bee, so we can help them by leaving open spaces in our yards unchecked. And if you happen to find a one of these insects or it's nest, leave it be!

If you're interested in learning more about bees and bee conservation, I would recommend taking a look at the at The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation (<https://www.xerces.org/>).

The Port Aransas Cookbook



By Chris Jordan

The 2014 book *Transformative Experience* by philosopher L.A. Paul posits that a life event can render a person fundamentally changed in ways that cannot have been foreseen. Paul gives the example of becoming a vampire. A great meal can do that.

My maternal grandmother Claudia Kinkel, known to all her grandchildren as Mum, was a renaissance woman who came of age in the roaring twenties. She was a birder, a tailor, a photographer, a suffragette, a gardener, an author, a musician, and a gambler. And she could absolutely slay a crossword puzzle. I lived a life of vicarious extravagance as a youngster poring over her Gatsby gowns, pillbox hats and hand-colored glamor shots. You see, Mum was going to be a movie star and the only things that got in her way were marrying a Big Band banjo player, raising a family, and The Great Depression.

Chief among Mum's talents in my opinion was her cooking. She was a culinary force to be reckoned with. If there were a timeline of my life illustrating important food events, points all along would be attributed to Mum. She showed me how to clean a catfish and she put that first succulent bite of fresh fried fish in my mouth. There was garden mint in sun tea. Roquefort salad dressing. Oysters. Johnny cakes. Wild-harvested watercress, ramps, native pecans, and bull nettle seeds. Pralines. Egg rolls. Scrapple. Venison sausage. And Camembert. Where did she get *that* in the Texas Hill Country in the seventies?

The list of food experiences Mum delivered is inexhaustible, each one leaving me slightly changed. Each widening my view of an ever-expanding culinary landscape. The curiosity in food my grandmother instilled in me has never left and grows more intense every day. Adventurous eaters are not born. They are made.

And so it would seem natural my first job would be at the venerable Grey Moss Inn just down the street from our little horse farm where I grew up between Grey Forest and Helotes. I would learn about wine and more about food and be introduced to fine dining. And, of course, I would have several minor food awakenings during my time there.

In the early nineties, I worked for the stupendously talented Guy Carnathan at Beulah's in Port Aransas. Guy's inherent, savant-like good taste and knack for orchestrating artistic synergy between foods was inspiring. And there was more wine and much food talk that might have counted for philosophy, religion or pomposity.

During one of my stints away from Port Aransas, I met an amazing man named Blake Pickett. Blake could race a competition jet sky, ride a bull, hunt an elk, guide a whitewater river trip, weld-up a truss in a skyscraper, prepare veal saltimbocca, or break a donkey. When our paths crossed, as it happens, Blake was opening a fine-dining Italian restaurant overlooking the Guadalupe river in Kerrville and I helped him do it. Blake's artistry in the kitchen was astounding and I was his sommelier. We would put on multi-course wine-paired dinners, each time pushing our respective abilities further, challenging each other, swinging from the bleachers.

During my time in St. Croix operating a little rum, wine and tapas joint, I met and befriended the most amazing person. Bill is a Vegas-based mover-shaker, singer, a songwriter, a television producer, and an astounding stage performer. We had a band together on that Caribbean island, The Kings of Croix, and Bill altered the relationship people had with music each time

they saw him perform. Bill and I still keep-up, so a few years ago I called on him for a favor.

A group of friends and I were going to Las Vegas and I asked Bill to hook us up. So he told us where to go, got us into shows, past long lines at clubs, on VIP guest lists and all that jive. Everyone in our group was a career food person: chefs, restaurateurs, waiters, sommeliers and one genuine Italian. We ate, drank, gambled and caroused. But the Main Event was dinner at the eponymous Joël Robuchon restaurant in the MGM Grand. If you don't know who Chef Robuchon was, he was The Chef of the Century and had *thirty* Michelin stars among his restaurants. I had discreetly seen that this Vegas trip corresponded to a time Chef Robuchon would be in Las Vegas. My buddy Bill arranged a very special dinner experience for us and no one in our party but I knew it would happen.

After exhaustive primping and outfit-changing at our hotel, we were all finally ready to go to The Main Event. We arrived at the restaurant, were greeted by the maître d'hôtel, and whisked passed the dapper crowd and into a lavish private dining room. This was unexpected by everyone but me, and I fended-off their astonished glances with a shrug. The room was beautiful, the table was set for royalty, and the chairs were the most comfortable any of us had ever sat in. Several men and women silently attended, only speaking as necessary to guide us.

What happened to us all next is difficult to convey. I liken it to an out-of-body experience that afflicted a not-horrible form of PTSD upon us. I remember only little hazy bits of that three



Chef Joël Robuchon

hours of my life. There was rustic bread made in-house and a flight of numerous artisanal butters from around the world. There was rare and coveted wine we will never be able to taste again. Of course there were several courses and towards the

end, there we all were, dumbfounded, barely able to speak or even comprehend what we were experiencing. We were stuck, minds blown, in some kind of sensory overload loop. We had a dessert of a glass-like sphere that our waiter shattered with a spoon, spilling an olfactory fog out onto the table.

And then it happened. A man entered the room. Two men actually. One wore a chef's coat and the other a suit. The chef spoke to us first in French. The man in the suit second, in English. We stuttered and mumbled praise and managed to ask a few questions. Finally one of my chef friends asked how long the man in the chef's coat had been learning his craft under the tutelage of the great Joël Robuchon. I gasped audibly. The man in the suit paused, and without interpretation to the man in the chef's coat, said to my friend "Madame, this is Chef Robuchon standing here before you now."

It took only a moment for my chef friend to lose and then regain her composure. She stood up slowly, but with intention, walked over to Chef Joël Robuchon, grabbed him by both shoulders, beamed her biggest starry-eyed smile right into his face, kissed him on both cheeks, and bear-hugged the crap out of him.

We somehow got out of there alive but our very nature had changed; we were now vampires, living an enchanted but desperate existence as empty vessels, similes of our former selves, barely holding on until our next opportunity for such nourishment as had transformed us.



The crowd at the south end of the Michael J. Ellis Seawall on Sunday. Photo by Doc McGregor II.

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Three Chords and the Truth

By Ronnie Narmour
ronnienarmour@gmail.com

Keep on the sunny side...

Ok folks, somehow we have lumbered into the middle of summer, which has been no easy task considering the sweltering heat and constant barrage of lousy stuff going on in this world. The good news is that most of the bars have pretty decent air conditioning and there is plenty of good music out there to soothe the savage beast. It takes some doing, but when you start to feel sorry for yourself, take a look around. I watched a roofing crew shingle a house across the street from me in triple digit heat this week and all I could mutter was, "man, I'm sure glad that ain't me up there." There are two categories of people in this world. The first one is all the poor and hungry souls who are chronically ill and crippled and live in pain and can hardly tolerate the daily task of living. And you wonder how they make it through each day in such misery. And the other category is everyone else. When you think you've got it bad you won't have to look far to find someone who's got it worse. We all have to keep reminding each other that no matter how crummy it gets, it could always be worse. You gotta keep on the sunny side yall. Here's a pro tip... when you think your life really, really sucks and you start feeling sorry for yourself, get out of your own head and go do something extra nice for someone and expect nothing in return. Don't over think it, just go out of your way to help someone who didn't ask for it but could really use it. It really does work and I'm just sorry it took me a lifetime to figure this out.



My Mermaid Gal in action collecting data at the Deep Sea Round Up on Saturday.

for it but could really use it. It really does work and I'm just sorry it took me a lifetime to figure this out.

Scattered shots...



Ty Dietz played Red's Riviera on Saturday.



Christopher Wright played Bron's on Saturday.

I made it out to see a few shows last week. One artist that really impressed me was Christopher Wright who played a solo show at Bron's last Friday. For one thing, the setting was perfect. It was right at dusk and had cooled down some. There were lots

of kids running around having fun and folks out enjoying the early evening. I had met Mr. Wright at Shorty's one night recently and had made it a point to seek him out. He comes from Prosper, Texas up north of Frisco in the DFW area. Wright's repertoire was primarily original but he did slip some tasty covers in the Americana realm. His songs are thoughtful and creative and his voice is strong and soothing. It's obvious that he cares deeply about his lyrics and labors over every heartfelt word. Christopher joined me on his break and was a most delightful young man. He puts on a good show and has a good head on his shoulders. I hope we see more of Christopher Wright around here. Check him out. On Saturday I spent most of the afternoon taking pics at the big Deep Sea Round Up fishing tournament held at the pavilion in Roberts Point Park. My Mermaid Gal works the weigh-in every year and I run around looking for photo ops with anglers and dead fish. It's fun. From there I made it by Red's Riviera for a special little shindig that had going on with a pot luck dinner and songster Ty Dietz providing the music. It felt like I knew every person in there. Ty was quite at home, too and delivered a stellar performance. A little later on I made it out to Shorty's for a dose of real deal

blues from the John Cortez band that had that porch smoking. John was on fire and had clearly found his zone. And finally later that night on my way home, I stopped into Treasure Island to see a band I was curious about, the Chainlinks. They were another talented cover band singing lots of familiar songs that we all know and love. All in all, I'd call it a good weekend.



Riptide plays the VFW every Wednesday.

DO NOT MISS LIST Coming this weekend...



Michael Amos will play Island Wine on Sunday.



Josh Murley will play Bron's on Thursday and Friday.



John Boyd of Passing Strangers will play Treasure Island on Sunday.

popping up and I'm destined to check him out. He'll be there this Thursday. Also on Thursday and Friday this week, the super talented Josh Murley plays Bron's with Ty Dietz opening. Based out of Kerrville, Josh really is a very special performer. He fronts a very cool band, Someone Like You, and was on The Voice. Also on Friday, the greatest bar band in the world, the Toman Brothers, will play Shorty's for some dynamite country and classic rock and Rex Allen McNeil will play Treasure Island. On Saturday, catch the 80's dance band the Groove at Shorty's, the island sounds of the Coastal Benders at Island Wine, Brad Etheridge at Bron's, the great Chica and the Man at the Gaff (Sunday too), Five Card Draw at Treasure Island and Virginia's will have Randy Rogers and Wade Bowen in their parking lot where you can easily hear them from Shorty's. On Sunday there's a killer reggae show at Concrete Street with Iration. That ought to hold you for a while. Be safe out there.

♪♪♪ And, that's the truth ♪♪♪



The fabulous Toman Brothers will play Shorty's on Friday.

LIVE MUSIC TONIGHT

Thursday, July 14

Selfie @ Shorty's
Michael Amos @ Island Wine
Artie V @ Treasure Island
Trey Rose, Josh Murley @ Bron's
Art Barrera @ Salty Dolphin
Jered Clark @ Virginia's on the Bay
Billy Snipes @ Stingray's
Alley Catz @ Rockit's
Alesana @ Brewster Street Downtown
Meza Band @ Brewster Street Southside
Dial-Ups, Willie Mellon @ Bay Jamin' in Cole Park
Alley Catz @ Rockit's
Red Tide Band @ Blue Marlin Saloon
Paul Montoya @ Red's Palmilla

Friday, July 15

Toman Bros @ Shorty's
Karaoke @ Island Wine
Rex Allen McNeil @ Treasure Island
Josh Murley, Ty Dietz @ Bron's
Jim Dugan @ Fisherman's Wharf
Groove @ Pelican Lounge
Jered Clark @ Virginia's on the Bay
Jacob Thomas @ Blue Water Cowboy
David Martinez @ Cinnamon Shore
After Glow @ Angry Marlin
Johnny Kiser @ Packery Bar & Grill
Caleb Navarro @ Sunset Hideaway
Art Barrera @ South Texas Icehouse
Palacios Brothers @ Exchange
Robert Ray @ Brewster Street Downtown
Cover This @ Brewster Street Southside
Audiobox, Saul Padron @ Rockit's
Mike Guerra @ Trisum @ Executive Surf Club
Eclipse @ Cassidy's Irish Pub
Ruben Limas @ Blackbeard's
Afterglow @ Angry Marlin
Groove @ Pelican
Billy Snipes @ Rockport Market Days
Mike Luna @ Kbobs
Calallen

Saturday, July 16

The Groove @ Shorty's
Coastal Benders @ Island Wine
Trey Rose, Brad Etheridge @ Brons
Chica & the Man @ Gaff
Five Card Draw @ Treasure Island
Lance Covington @ Surfside Lounge

BRON'S BAR & GRILL BACKYARD NOW OPEN!
PORT ARANSAS, TX

TREY ROSE, JOSH MURLEY	JULY 14
TY DIETZ, JOSH MURLEY	JULY 15
TREY ROSE, BRAD ETHERIDGE	JULY 16
CALEB NAVARRO, BRAD ETHERIDGE	JULY 17
KEVIN KURTZ	JULY 19

314 E. Ave G, Port A. | (361) 336-4723

Island Wine
1726 HWY 361
Smoke Free & Pet Friendly

Wednesday: Singer-Songwriter Open Mic Hosted by Jay Springer 7 PM
Thursday: Bingo 6:30 Artie V 7-10 PM
Friday: Karaoke 7pm- close
Saturday: Coastal Benders 7-10 PM
Sunday: Michael Amos 3-6 PM

Treasure Island

ARTIE V	JULY 14
REX ALLEN McNEIL	JULY 15
FIVE CARD DRAW	JULY 16
JOHN BOYD	JULY 17
ARTIE V	JULY 21

315 N. Alister (361) 416-1020
treasureislandporta

MOORE-MCDONALD VFW POST 8967
BEST LITTLE POST ON THE TEXAS COAST

RIPTIDE
WEDNESDAY, JULY 20

DUNEBILLIES
FRIDAY, JULY 22

WAYWARD GYPSIES
SATURDAY, JULY 23

311 N. Alister • Open to the Public

SHORTY'S
SELFIE EVERY THURS

TOMAN BROS	JULY 15
THE GROOVE	JULY 16
JIM DUGAN, TY DIETZ	JULY 17
CBDB'S	JULY 22
TODD DORN	JULY 23

OPEN 10am - 2am • 823 Tarpon St. Port A.

Brad Etheridge @ Beer Hut
Mike Luna @ 361 Bar
Rich Lockhart @ Cinnamon Shore
Afterglow @ Pelican Lounge
Aloha Dave & the Tourists @ Packery Bar
Robin Blue @ Salty Oak
Randy Rogers & Wade Bowen @ Virginia's
Chanklas @ Vernon's
Tres Matts @ House of Rock
Seattle Rising @ Brewster Street Downtown
Scarecrow People @ Brewster Street Southside
Splendiferous @ Rockit's
Eclipse @ Executive Surf Club
Chanklas @ Vernon's
Covertones @ Exchange
Jered Clark @ Virginia's on the Bay
Code 2 & the Extinguishers @ Sunset Hideaway
Lucy Morrison @ Salty Dolphin
Miles & Dylan @ Blackbeard's
Mike Guerra & Trisum @ Pier 99

Sunday, July 17
Jim Dugan, Ty Dietz @ Shorty's
Michael Amos @ Island Wine
Caleb Navarro, Brad Etheridge @ Bron's
Chica & the Man @ Gaff
John Boyd @ Treasure Island
Tumble Dry Low @ Bernie's
Jerry Ward @ Pelican Lounge
Ruben Limas @ Salty Dolphin
Jered Clark @ Virginia's on the Bay
Art Barrera @ Packery Bar & Grill
Mike Guerra @ Blackbeard's
Iration, Atmosphere, Passfire @ Concrete Street
Randy Rogers & Wade Bowen @ Brewster Downtown
Dam Right Duo @ House of Rock
Matt Hole @ Joe Burke Pavillion, Portland

Monday, July 18
Stevie Start @ Doc's
Bubba Flex @ Bron's

Tuesday, July 19
Kevin Kurtz @ Bron's
Open Mic @ House of Rock
Billy Snipes @ Doc's
Robin Blue @ Scuttlebutt's
Chuck Almaraz @ Blackbeard's
Open Jam @ Rialto Theater AP

Wednesday, July 20
Singer-Songwriter Open
Mic w/ Jay Springer @ Island Wine
Riptide @ VFW
Billy Snipes, Corn Hole @ Bron's
Art Barrera @ Pelican

TEXAS RED'S RIVIERA
Happy Hour everyday 11-6!
FULL BAR • FOOSBALL • GOLDEN TEE • DARTS • POOL
SHUFFLEBOARD • Coldest beer in town!
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