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Issue 1022



The Island Moon

The voice of The Island since 1996

November 17, 2023 Weekly
www.islandmoon.com
Full Color Version Available Online!



By Dale Rankin
As we roll on into the holiday season there is a lot going on Around The Island we are now officially rabies free, so we got that going for us.

Digging the Packery...

By the time you read this the dredge may already be working in Packery Channel. The fair weather mid-week allowed for the dredge to be towed from the Rockport area and begin the work of getting the depth of Packery Channel to fourteen feet and widen the beach along the Michael J. Ellis Seawall. The sand will be placed on the beach in the area just south of Whitecap Boulevard north to about mid-way up the seawall. Once the beach is wider than 150 feet the bollards blocking traffic on the south end of the seawall will be removed, it is unknown if the beach at the southern tip of the seawall will be left wide enough for cars to pass southbound to Whitecap. The Corpus Christi City Council on Tuesday approved a change order adding \$400,000 to the project to dredge the area near the entrance to Lake Padre bringing the total cost of the project to \$3.9 million. The work is being paid for through the Island's Tax Increment Refinance Zone #2 and is scheduled to be finished by March.

Open the Bridge!



Crews this week were finishing the guardrails on the northbound lane of the new Don Patricio water exchange bridge as city officials are working on a plan for the ribbon cutting in mid-December. As of press time no firm date had been set but the contract for the bridge calls for its completion by year's end and the project is on schedule after two decades of planning and just over two years of construction. City plans call for the cutting through of the channel under the bridge for the mid-December completion of the bridge structure. The clearance above the waterline once the channel is open will be fourteen feet which is several feet higher than the two bridges leading to it from the west

Around cont. on A6

Short-Term Rental cases still pending court action

By Dale Rankin
A total of 72 citations written against a local builder who has been operating three Short-Term Rental (STR) properties on Padre Island neighborhoods in violation of city ordinances are still awaiting court action after two postponements.

Home builder Mike Mostaghassi who has been operating Short-Term Rental houses on Padre Island since January has had two dates set for a bench trial in Corpus Christi Municipal Court, each has been postponed.

District 4 City Councilman Dan Suckley who has been pushing the City Attorney's Office to push the cases to court said Wednesday that a hearing was scheduled for Thursday, November 16, but Mostaghassi said Wednesday he was unaware of the hearing and his lawyer did not return phone calls. City records show that city inspectors have issued Mr. Mostaghassi citations for either operating the STR in residential Island neighborhoods or advertising them, which is also a violation of city

STRs cont. on A8



Go to a Cowboys Game, see pictures of Port Aransas



Football fans who attended the Dallas Cowboys-New Your Giants game in AT&T Stadium in Dallas last Sunday saw promotional advertisements for Port Aransas on the stadium's giant video screen. The Port Aransas Tourism Bureau & Chamber of Commerce has signed a deal with the Dallas Cowboys and The Star in Frisco, the Dallas Cowboys World

Headquarters based in Frisco that includes ads in the stadium during games and cross-promotional opportunities. "We continue to see the Dallas and Fort Worth markets as an area of the state where we have great potential for growth," said Port Aransas Tourism Bureau &

Port A cont. on A3

Truckloads of sand Cleaning up well sites on Padre Island National Seashore

Curious Islanders who have noticed truckloads of sand rolling north out of Padre Island National Seashore called the Island Moon office this week inquiring about its origin. The National Park Service is removing the remnants of orphaned oil and gas infrastructure from the South Spirit oil and gas site and restoring wetland and upland habitat. Abandoned structures provide artificial habitat for the Great Horned Owl, a predator of the endangered Northern Aplomado falcon and the abandoned well pad consisted of non-native



soils in which invasive vegetation grows. Aerial view of the Lemon Well Pad before removal and restoration. NPS Photo Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Revegetation of Hazard Mine Lands | FY22 \$430,000 The National Park Service will remove orphaned oil and gas infrastructure from the Lemon Pad oil and gas site at Padre Island National Seashore. The project will address public safety concerns and

Wells cont. on A3

A little Island history Spanish Shipwreck Survivors Leave South Texas in Autumn 1534

By Dale Rankin
Part I.
If the Indians of the Southern Texas Plains had developed a calendar it likely would not have centered around the movement of the sun or the moon, more likely it would have begun and ended in autumn when the most important time of their annual cycle rolled around; the season when the tunas – the fruit that grows on the ubiquitous Prickly Pear Cactus – turns from green to a bright red before

History cont. on page A5



Cabeza de Vaca and friends as depicted by Hollywood



Even coyotes need a kind hand sometimes. This guy was on his last leg swimming and cold in the ICW.

No Rabies!

Crews from Corpus Christi Animal Control and the United States Department of Agriculture captured six coyotes in the open field between Packery Channel and Lake Padre after four people suffered coyote bites since October 23. All six of the coyotes were tested for rabies and all were negative. The eighty acres of privately-owned land is posted but is a popular destination for anglers. City and federal authorities say they will continue to monitor the area but no additional trapping is currently planned.

Island Moon Rain Report

All stations are on Padre Island

November 10-14, 2023
Beneficial rains rolled in from Mexico throughout the Veterans Day weekend, partially recharging our South Texas watershed. This extended rainstorm brought us the most precipitation we've seen this year.

Padre Island	
Cayo Cantiles	3.16"
Dyna St.	4.22"
Scallop St.	4.54"
Mustang Island	
Beachwalk Ln.	3.96"



Tuesday morning after 4 days of rain

Bingo for Bags was held on Tuesday November 14th at HardKnocks Sports Bar. It is one of the most popular fundraisers that benefit our Seashore Schools. It was a packed house with all of the ladies donning their fanciest hats. Thank you to all who attended and to Rod Lewis for hosting. Photos By Debbie Noble.



On Sunday, Dr. David Essian, a Postdoctoral Research Associate in our Conservation and Biodiversity Lab, spotted a Cattle Tyrant downtown at Chaparral St. and Schatzell St. This is the first record of this species for the entirety of North America (north of Panama)!

Photo Courtesy of Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies

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A Sora strolls through the marsh at the Leonabelle Turnbull Birding Center in Port Aransas. Photo By Darla Dollman

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Letters to the Editor

WE’VE BEEN LIED TO

In a Letter to the Editor in the Nov. 3 Island Moon newspaper, County Commissioner Brent “No Pier” Chesney suggested that County Judge Connie Scott lied to us when she said she cast the deciding vote to kill the restaurant on the new Bob Hall Pier because of a budget shortfall.

In his letter, Commissioner No Pier tried to respond to prior criticism that he WAS able to find \$4 million in tax money to build an extension to a pavilion he wants that sits next to the old pier, but WAS NOT able to find money to build the new pier restaurant. Commissioner No Pier said he didn’t pursue extra tax dollars because it was not needed because the money for the restaurant was already set aside. He wrote, “So it is not a lack of funding. Nueces County has it.”

So, when Connie Scott told everyone in a videotaped Commissioner’s Court meeting on Sept 19 (you can find it at the 1:34:50 mark on the County’s website) that she was torpedoing the restaurant because of a shortage of money, she lied? That’s the logical conclusion to draw from Commissioner No Pier’s statements.

Do you now understand why folks are so upset about how this whole pier fiasco has played out? A County Commissioner just suggested that the County Judge lied to us.

But who is misleading who? Did Commissioner No Pier just throw Connie Scott under the bus to protect himself from criticism that he can’t or won’t find additional funding to get the restaurant built? No Pier says he hasn’t tried to get additional funds because we don’t really need any. But Scott said her sole reason in killing the restaurant was lack of funds. And two other Commissioners also voted against the restaurant and also said it was due to lack of funds. Shouldn’t No Pier be finding more funds so he can present those to the other Commissioners and say “I solved the problem,

I AM WHEEL. HEAR ME SQUEAK.



here’s more money. Let’s build the restaurant!”? Wouldn’t that be more productive than making up excuses for why he CAN’T find money for the restaurant but CAN find it for a pavilion that is his pet project? And isn’t calling his good friend the County Judge, in effect, a liar, counterproductive?

Commissioner No Pier says he was unable to persuade Scott to vote for the restaurant. That’s his job, getting other politicians to vote how we want. It’s hard to believe No Pier couldn’t get her to vote for the restaurant considering he helped get her elected. And it’s even harder to believe since Scott thought so highly of Commissioner No Pier that she donated at least \$8000 to his past campaigns. Just how hard did he try to convince her?

It’s been 3 years and 4 months since Hurricane Hanna destroyed Bob Hall Pier. Our County Commissioners still don’t have a final plan. Their last guess is the pier will be rebuilt, WITHOUT a restaurant, in 2026. Hurricane Allen destroyed Bob Hall Pier in August of 1980. It was rebuilt and re-opened, WITH a restaurant, in May of 1983. That’s less than 3 years.

Since building techniques and equipment have gotten better and faster in the last 40 years, why is it taking twice as long to rebuild the pier, and why no restaurant? Commissioner “No Pier” Chesney needs to tell us the truth.

Craig Rogers

Wells cont. from A1

benefit threatened and endangered species, including the Northern Aplomado falcon. Site restoration will include restoring wetland and wind-tidal habitat and improving of the overall health of the surrounding landscape.

Why? On the east side of the island, well pads and access roads interfere with coastal dune formation and create weak spots on the barrier island. Removing the infrastructure will restore hydrologic connections and improve critical habitat for threatened and endangered wildlife.

What Else? This project is being completed in collaboration with the Railroad Commission of Texas.

As part of the restoration projects, non-native soils will be removed from the former oil and gas pad sites and will be replaced with native materials. The sites will then be revegetated to restore the grasslands. NPS Photo

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), is the largest investment in American history devoted to the restoration and protection of the environment and infrastructure. It is providing much needed funding to rebuild the country’s roads and bridges, tackle the climate crisis, and advance environmental justice.

In the National Park System, the law is funding projects that address environmental and infrastructure concerns in national parks, including wildland fire safety and restoration efforts, climate crisis intervention, legacy pollution eradication, and transportation enhancements.

At Padre Island National Seashore, the BIL is providing funding through the Ecosystem

Restoration funding source to remove and restore ‘orphaned’ oil and gas well sites in the park.

BIL projects fall into one of five topic areas and compliment key Department of the Interior initiatives. The projects listed below fall under the Protecting and Restoring Island & Coastal Ecosystems in the Face of a Changing Climate topic area. They also compliment key Department of the Interior initiatives to foster native biodiversity in island systems AND rehabilitate and realign coastal salt marsh.



Aerial view of the Lemon Well Pad before removal and restoration.

New Sport

Dotson, I just read this week’s Moon and there is an article in there about Minnow Racing coming to the Island. It encourages folks to train their Minnow to race other Minnows. WOW what an opportunity to attract folks to the Island and for you to excel as a writer. You could feature the training skills needed to produce a Champion Minnow and have a picture taken with your winning Minnow. I’m sure Martha will help you write the article. Keep up the good work and see you around the Island.

The Dutchman

Port A cont. from A1

Chamber of Commerce Board Chairperson Keith McMullin. “And, it’s not only the DFW market this partnership will reach, but as ‘America’s Team’ the Dallas Cowboys align with many of our target markets throughout Texas and the US.” Under the agreement, the cost of which remains secret under the agreement, images of the Port Aransas shores and offerings will run across the concourse signage and inner bowl signage on game days. The partnership will also include game day activations at the stadium during prime tailgating times, and notable placement of Port Aransas on DallasCowboys.com. This partnership also includes several nods to the destination at the World Headquarters of the Dallas Cowboys, The Star in Frisco. At the team’s headquarters, Port Aransas will be displayed on LED Banner Board, Inner Bowl LED Board exposure for events and several activations on site throughout key events like NFL Draft Day and more. The deal is funded through the City of Port Aransas Hotel Occupancy Tax through the Port Aransas Tourism Bureau & Chamber of Commerce. McMullin said the deal was done through Madden Media which consults with the City of Port Aransas for promotion outside the market. “This is a significant investment but the Dallas Cowboys are a global brand,” he said. “We believe it will be good for the entire Island. The Dallas area is growing and as people move in from out of state we need to reinforce our brand with them as well as people who may have visited before to remind them that we are still here.” He said that cell phone data found that Dallas is a growing market for Port Aransas.

Moon Monkeys

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Where to Find The Island Moon

Port Aransas Pioneer RV	All Stripes Stores
Stripes on 1A	Black Sheep/ Barrel
Kody’s	CVS
Coffee Waves	Dollar General
Moby Dicks	Doc’s Restaurant
IGA	Snoopy’s Pier
Treasure Island	Isle Mail N More
San Juan’s Restaurant	Island Italian
Wash Tub	Brooklyn Pie Co.
Shorty’s Place	Ace Hardware
Gratitude	Texas Star (Shell)
The Gaff	Spanky’s
Red’s Riviera	Scuttlebutt’s
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Senior Moments

Senior Moments Special to The Island Moon

By Dotson Lewis

Trench Warfare-Part 1



Dotson's Note: Trench warfare is a type of land warfare using occupied lines largely comprised of military trenches, in which combatants are well-protected from the enemy's small arms fire and are substantially sheltered from artillery. It became archetypically associated with World War I (1914–1918), when the Race to the Sea rapidly expanded trench use on the Western Front starting in September 1914. Thanks to Joe Mix and Fred Shope, who where both World War I combat veterans, for the facts contained in this report and thanks to and Ernest Brooks for the photos.



Trench warfare proliferated when a revolution in firepower was not matched by similar advances in mobility, resulting in a grueling form of warfare in which the defender held the advantage. On the Western Front in 1914–1918, both sides constructed elaborate trenches, underground and dugout systems opposing each other along a front, protected from assault by barbed wire. The area between opposing trench lines (known as “no man’s land”) was fully exposed to artillery fire from both sides. Attacks, even if successful, often sustained severe casualties. The development of armored warfare and combined arms tactics permitted static lines to be bypassed and defeated, leading to the decline of trench warfare after the war. Following World War I, «trench warfare» became a byword for stalemate, attrition, sieges, and futility in conflict. Field works have existed for as long as there have been armies. Roman legions, when in the presence of an enemy, entrenched camps nightly when on the move. The Roman general Belisarius had his soldiers dig a trench as part of the Battle of Dara in 530 CE.

Trench warfare was also documented during the defense of Medina in a siege known as the Battle of the Trench (627 AD). The architect of the plan was Salman the Persian who suggested digging a trench to defend Medina.

There are examples of trench digging as a defensive measure during the Middle Ages in Europe, such as during the Piedmontese Civil War, where it was documented that on the morning of May 12, 1640, the French soldiers, having already captured the left bank of the Po river and gaining control of the bridge connecting the two banks of the river, and wanting to advance to the Capuchin Monastery of the Monte, deciding that their position wasn't secure enough for their liking, then choose to advance on a double attack on the trenches, but were twice repelled. Eventually, on the third attempt, the French broke through and the defenders were forced to flee with the civilian population, seeking the sanctuary of the local Catholic church, the Santa Maria al Monte dei Cappuccini, in Turin, also known at that time as the Capuchin Monastery of the Monte. An interesting read is about the Eucharistic Miracle of Turin, Italy, on May 12, 1640.



Lines of Torres Vedras In Portugal.

In early modern warfare, troops used field works to block possible lines of advance. Examples include the Lines of Stollhofen, built at the start of the War of the Spanish Succession of 1702–1714, the Lines of Weissenburg built under the orders of the Duke of Villars in 1706, the Lines of Ne Plus Ultra during the winter of 1710–1711, and the Lines of Torres Vedras in 1809 and 1810.

The Ngāpuhi pā Ruapekapeka is often considered to be the most sophisticated

and technologically impressive by historians. British casualties, such as at Gate Pa in 1864 and the Battle of Ohaeawai in 1845, suggested that contemporary weaponry, such as muskets and cannon, proved insufficient to dislodge defenders from a trench system.

There has been an academic debate surrounding this since the 1980s, when in his book *The New Zealand Wars*, historian James Belich claimed that Northern Māori had effectively invented trench warfare during the first stages of the New Zealand Wars. However, this has been criticized by a few academics of the same period, with Gavin McLean noting that while the Māori had certainly adapted their trench system (“pa”) to suit contemporary weaponry, many historians have dismissed Belich’s claim as “baseless... revisionism”. Others more recently have said that while it is clear the Māori did not invent trench warfare *first* - Māori did invent trench-based defenses without any offshore aid - some believe they may have influenced 20th-century methods of trench design identified with it.

The Crimean War (1853–1856) saw «massive trench works and trench warfare», even though «the modernity of the trench war was not immediately apparent to the contemporaries».



Trenches at the Siege of Vicksburg 1863

Union and Confederate armies employed field works and extensive trench systems in the American Civil War (1861–1865) — most notably in the sieges of Vicksburg (1863) and Petersburg (1864–1865), the latter of which saw the first use by the Union Army of the rapid-fire Gatling gun, the important precursor to modern-day machine guns. Trenches were also utilized in the Paraguayan War (which started in 1864), the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899–1902), and the Russo-Japanese War (1904–1905).



Above, 1st Lancashire Fusiliers, in communication trench near Beaumont Hamel, Somme, 1916.

Although technology had dramatically changed the nature of warfare by 1914, the armies of the major combatants had not fully absorbed the implications. Fundamentally, as the range and rate of fire of rifled small-arms increased, a defender shielded from enemy fire (in a trench, at a house window, behind a large rock, or behind other cover) was often able to kill several approaching foes before they closed around the defender’s position.

Dotson’s Other Note: Attacks across open ground became even more dangerous after the introduction of rapid-firing artillery, exemplified by the “French 75”, and high explosive fragmentation rounds. The increases in firepower had outstripped the ability of infantry (or even cavalry) to cover the ground between firing lines, and the ability of armor to withstand fire. It would take a revolution in mobility to change that.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: The weekly Veterans Round Table meetings are on Thursdays 9-11AM. All veterans, their families and anyone interested in veterans’ activities, are invited. The meeting location is at Del Mar College, Center for Economic Development, 3209 S. Staples. (Across from Ray High School). Also, the Veterans Radio Round Table is on the air on KEYS AM 1440 & 98.7 FM, 8 – 10 a.m., Saturdays. Please listen and call in or text. The listener/text line is: 361-882-5397. It’s your two hours; please let us hear from you. **TO BE CONTINUED**



Stuff I Heard on the Island

By Dale Rankin

If you moved to The Island after 2004 you missed the Great Island Shark Fight. It was a doozy and slid right from sublime to ridiculous and back again but the bad news is that it left a mark on The Island that remains today as anyone who has constructed a new commercial building can attest.

It all started when the owner of the souvenir shop now called Third Coast Beach Swimwear store at the corner of Headsail Avenue and SPID decided to put up a sign in the form of a giant shark. The store has since changed hands but was then owned by a middle-eastern gentleman with a thick accent who owned stores in Port Aransas and the Rio Grande Valley most of which had a display of a large fish, whale, or sea creature none of which caused any kind of backlash from residents, in fact most people liked them especially tourists who took selfies with them before they were called selfies. The giant mermaid was already in place and no one seemed to mind but the idea of a giant shark for some reason raised the ire of some Islanders, especially Island Moon employee Gladys Choyke who has now passed on but anyone who knew her can tell you that if Gladys didn’t want a giant shark on The Island someone was going to hear about it.

An emergency was declared and a committee of twenty-four people was formed, none of which had any experience in architectural design but all shared a common dislike for the addition of a giant shark sign which they feared would kill the “Island aesthetic” and heaven forbid make us look like a “tourist town!” Meetings were held, tables were pounded, calls were made to city hall and a small army of Islanders descended on a meeting of the City Planning Commission where the store owner was applying for a permit to build his shark sign. The meeting stretched on for nearly two hours in a cramped room at city hall as Islander after Islander rose to outdo each other in describing the dastardly fate of The Island after the addition of a giant shark. They explained to the commission that they would soon complete a drafting of a new city ordinance that would prevent shark signs of the future but were informed by the committee members that the application for the shark sign was filed prior to the new ordinance and therefore was grandfathered and not covered by anything passed after that. They threatened legal action with one Islander declaring, “Well, if the owner has a million dollars and wants to build it bad enough maybe he will win.”

Finally, when the naysayers finished naysaying the owner rose to speak and in his thick accent turned to face the crowd and said definitively, “I have a million dollars and I will build my shark!” You could have heard a shark scale drop – wait, sharks don’t have scales – well, anyway he got his permit and that’s when things started to get weird.

From the sublime to the ridiculous

A short time before that the owner of Billy Blues on Richmond Avenue in Houston had erected a seventy-foot tall saxophone that was so large the bottom of its bowl was an upturned Volkswagen bug and called it the Smokesax. The case went to court and the ruling came back that because the sax was attached to the building it was technically not a sign at all but rather a piece of the structure and therefore the Houston sign ordinance didn’t apply. The anti-sharkers were determined that the shark sign would not slip though the same loophole – even though the permit for the shark had already been approved – and the result was a 27-page document approved by the city council on August 17, 2004 creating the Island Overlay District which to this day remains the law of the land and covers all new commercial structures.

It covers everything from landscaping: “For properties abutting Park Road 22 or S.H. 361, palm trees with a minimum crown height of eight feet must be planted and spaced on 30 foot centers five feet inside the private property line. Artificial plants may not be used.

If a berm is provided, side slope must not exceed a maximum of 4:1 on three sides. One sheer side may be provided”

To architecture: “to create a better island by utilizing a theme and style of architecture that celebrates the coastal and Spanish heritage of South Texas and promotes quality building design for multi-family and nonresidential structures on the main thoroughfares of Padre Island.”

Builders must choose from a list of twenty-two approved colors – more on that in a minute – but the Big One was signs. “A sign which is supported by one monolithic structure set upon the ground and is not a part of a building” so a giant saxophone was out. “Sign Statuary – Life size or larger than life size replicas of animals, fish, or inanimate objects intended to be used as a commercial message” are prohibited. Read that again.

At the time I asked the metaphysical question; if I open up the Jolly Green Giant tee shirt shop is it the size of the giant on the can of beans or is it the giant in the commercial because he stretches all the way up to the clouds. That would be a big old sign. It was also pointed out that if the giant shark were painted black and white he would become a killer whale like Shamu and meet the requirements, or paint him grey and he becomes a legal sperm whale. You see what I mean by ridiculous.

A matter of contrast...

Then there was the Islander permitting a new building who was told the shade of green he chose was not on the color pallet where permissible colors were numbered by Sherwin-Williams which had discontinued the use of the numbering system leaving approval at the discretion of the person at city hall reviewing the application. So when the city staffer left to use the bathroom the applicant adjusted the contrast on his computer screen to match the color sample he had brought in and when the staffer returned approved the permit.

Serious business

While this reads like a plot to a bad movie the Overlay Zone restrictions have had serious consequences for dozens of Islanders putting in new commercial buildings some of whom have lost financing because the builders couldn’t afford to meet the requirements or simply lacked the space to meet the requirement that ten percent of their property had to be landscaped cutting down their available commercial space.

There have been attempts by the Island Strategic Action Committee over the years to do away with the Overlay Zone but each has stalled as city officials said they were going to get rid of it, but as you read this it is still on the books. Enforcement has varied over the years which means a legal challenge might be successful but requires legal expenses with no guarantees.

I know of two businesses right now looking to expand who are stymied by the Overlay Zone requirements as the Law of Unintended Consequences kicks in. That committee swung at a shark but hit Island businesses owners. As my friend Carlos Guerra used to say, the best way to get rid of a bad law is to make them enforce it.

The Jolly Green Giant tee shirt shop is looking better and better.



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PADRE ISLAND ENRICHMENT CLUB
14TH ANUAL THANKSGIVING BAKE SALE

Tuesday, November 21st
HardKnocks Sports Bar and Grill Patio
9 am to 1130 or sold out.

The Padre Island Enrichment Club is hosting its 14th Thanksgiving bake sale the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. Due to construction on SPID we have moved the site from Keller Williams Realty to the Hardknocks Patio area. It will begin at 9 am and end when sold out or at 1130.
Come and find holiday treats of cookies, cakes, and pies.
All proceeds from the sale will be used to benefit the Scholarship program that benefits college bound Island students.

By the numbers...

Padre Island Real Estate Activity
September 16 – September 30

By Cindy Molnar
Realtor Coldwell Banker Island, Realtors
14945 S. Padre Island Dr.

Interior Lot Homes Sold

14837 Cobo De Bara Circle
14241 Sea Pines Drive
13626 Whitecap Blvd.
43 Interior Lot Homes Listed From \$318,800.00 to \$789,000.00

Waterfront Homes Sold

13946 Dasmarinas Drive
15345 Tortuga Court
15345 Cartagena Court
49 Waterfront Homes Listed From \$479,900.00 to \$2,495,000.00

Interior Condominiums/Townhomes/Duplexes Sold

14721 Whitecap Blvd. #293
14721 Whitecap Blvd. #387
14202 Encantada Avenue #205

82 Interior Condominiums/Townhomes/Duplexes Listed From \$150,000.00 to \$699,900.00

Waterfront Condominium/Townhome/Duplex Sold

14428 Compass Street #101
58 Waterfront Condominiums/Townhomes/Duplexes Listed From \$118,000.00 to \$599,900.00

Waterfront Lot

36 Waterfront Lots Listed From \$219,900.00 to \$3,000,000.00

Interior Lot

19 Interior Lots Listed From \$104,900 to \$3,000,000.00

Commercial Lots

13 Commercial Lots Listed From \$110,000.00-\$2,550,000.00

History cont. from A1

it takes on a dark maroon color at the end of its season.

It was during this time – at the end of the summer season – that the scattered bands of the various regional tribes descended on the area just south of the Nueces River to feast on the tunas. For many it was the only time of the year their bellies were full.

It was also the time in 1534 when the four men who had been shipwrecked along the Gulf Coast and made their way to the Texas plains decided to flee their Karankawa captors. Álvár Núñez Cabeza de Vaca, [Andrés Dorantes de Carranza](#), [Alonso del Castillo Maldonado](#), and a black Moroccan [Berber](#) slave named Esteban (later called [Estevan-ico](#)) spent the winter of 1534 among the Avavares tribe who lived in South Texas. But in late August as the tunas began to ripen they set out west in hopes of finding their way back to the Spanish settlements of Mexico.

Unwitting shamans

As they headed west toward the Rio Grande they cut a trail through thick brush and encountered a fierce rainstorm the first night. The following morning they broke free of the heavy brush and immediately saw several wigwams and women and children who ran off, terrified to summon help from a group of the Indians gathering food nearby. They Indians led them to a camp with about fifty wigwams and fed them green prickly pears and baked cactus pads. The Spaniards later wrote that these Indians, of unknown identity, like their plains dwelling brethren before them, inexplicably asked the Spaniards to heal them. The common theme among the Indians the wanderers encountered all along their journey through Texas was that they were always asked to heal the sick. Whether word of their former work as shamans had preceded them or whether the Indians just intuitively imparted to them otherworldly powers has been lost to history. What is known from their later writings is that it was this work as shamans that allowed them to survive among the tribes of the plains.

The Europeans stayed with the group of Indians, likely somewhere south of the present day town of Freer, for two weeks until word of their healing powers spread to a tribe further west who arrived to fetch them to their camp where venison was plentiful.

Two women appeared out of the plains and beseeched them to come with them to a tribe further west where their healing powers were needed.

Men didn't ask directions

Inexplicably the four men set out immediately without the guidance of the women and were soon lost until the two women, along with two from the tribe of their previous hosts, arrived to scold them for their temerity.

The next day they walked thirty miles east and saw a river, “as wide as the Guadalquivir at Seville. In spite of the disagreement among scholars about the route taken by the survivors between present day Corpus Christi and Culiacin in Mexico there is universal agreement that this river was the Rio Grande. What there is almost no agreement on is exactly where on the Rio Grande they crossed it.

The Europeans were now living as Indians and time and distance was measured by food and water sources, the type of people they encountered, and the number of days it took to get from one to the other. So somewhere between present day Laredo and the mouth of the Rio Grande they waded across the river; the first Europeans known to do so and live to tell the tale. Once the party of the four men arrived in modern day Mexico, where they were now known among the Indians as shamans, they saw a cluster of one hundred teepees amidst the wide expanse of arid semi-barren plain. A shout rose up from the Indian camp that startled the travelers but the Indians approached with gifts rather than hostility. They carried rattles filled with tiny pebbles made from gourds brought downriver on the flood tides, but to the people of the plains they fell like treasures from heaven like rain sent by a benevolent deity; much the way the Spaniards looked at gold.

Rock Stars

These strange gourds delivered by nature's flowing water in the hands of these strange Europeans and carried far from the creek beds which brought them became the shamanistic symbols that would come to define the strangers' trek through a strange land.

As the groups came together on the shores of the river both were confused and scared in the presence of the other. The four visitors were thrust upon the shoulders of the crowd. The women who had accompanied

them were thanked for bringing them with gifts of bows and arrows and soon departed. As the next dawn broke the Indians began to bring in their sick to be cured and their children to be blessed.

The four men were taken to a nearby camp where the rock star treatment continued; they were mobbed and given prickly pear tunas and deer meat. Then like rock stars at the next dawn they moved to the next village where the ceremony was repeated. As they moved about they began to notice a puzzling pattern. They picked up groupies who would accompany them to the next camp and on their arrival the groupies would take whatever items they wished from the new camp then return home. When the travelers complained of this to their entourage they were told that the victims didn't mind as they were glad to have the “gods” in their midst and would in fact recoup their losses when they accompanied the travelers to their next destination. Historians are equally puzzled as to why this happened but Rock Star Syndrome is as good an explanation as any.

Social chaos

Unbeknownst to them the travelers had walked into social chaos. Less than two hundred miles south Spanish raids had forced the Indians north, slave raids along the coast had forced the coastal tribes inland and western diseases were beginning to ravage the indigenous population. Until the 1960s the number of Indians estimated to live in what is now the United States and Canada before the European arrival was about 1 million. Subsequent study discovered that the count was based on the observations of the first arriving Europeans; however the first wave of diseases had already decimated the population before their arrival. Best current estimates are that smallpox, cholera, typhoid, and measles killed more Indians in the first few decades after Columbus's arrival than were born in the next four hundred years.

The four travelers came across a tribe severely afflicted by blindness, many not blind had cataracts; a tough affliction for hunter/gatherers. “There,” Oviedo wrote,” with evident ironic incredulity, the survivors “cured all those who were blind or had cataracts and cured many other illnesses. Or, at least, if the Christians did not heal all of them, the Indians thought that they were able to do so.” The four travelers had walked into a changing world in the south plains - ironic beneficiaries of pathogens brought by their Spanish brethren.

A fateful decision

Their newly found adoration led the four shipwreck survivors to make a fateful decision. Had they turned south they would have quickly found fellow Spaniards at Panuco and their journey in the wilderness ended. But instead they decided not to return to the coast where they had been badly treated by the coastal tribes, but rather turn north with the great 3000-foot escarpment of the eastern Sierra Madre blocking their path westward. So in the fall of 1535 the shipwrecked travelers who had already been seven years roaming the Gulf Coast, mostly in South Texas, now headed north into a land unknown even to their Indian hosts who followed them as devoted braves and women water carriers for two hours. They met two scouts they had sent ahead who said they had traveled a great distance before turning back, finding no one and nothing ahead (it later turned out they were lying). Their entourage turned back as the four survivors hoisted the supplies on their own backs and set off into the unknown, roughly paralleling the course of the Rio Grande.



Cabeza de Vaca as celebrity.

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Sports

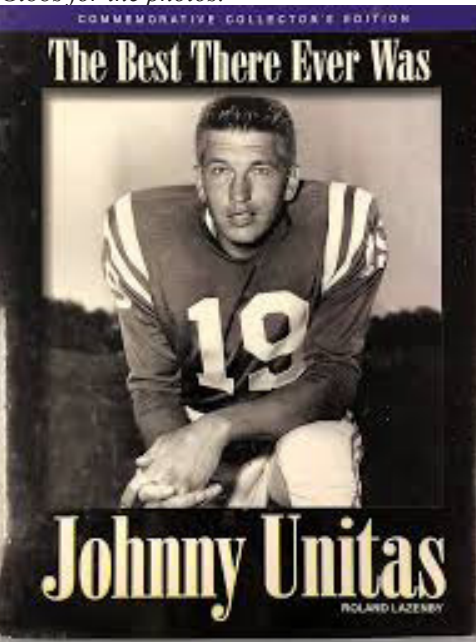
Sports Talk Special to The Island Moon



By Dotson Lewis

Johnny Unitas-NFL Quarterback

Dotson's Note: Johnny Unitas was a quarterback who played in the National Football League (NFL) for 18 seasons, primarily with the Baltimore Colts. Following a career that spanned from 1956 to 1973, he has been listed as one of the greatest NFL players of all time. Unitas set many NFL records and was named Most Valuable Player three times in 1959, 1964, and 1967, in addition to receiving 10 Pro Bowl and five first-team All-Pro honors. He helped lead the Colts to four championship titles; three in the pre-merger era in 1958, 1959, and 1968, and one in the Super Bowl era in Super Bowl V. Thanks to Bill Morgan, Referee Ronnie Gibbs and Wikipedia for the facts contained in this report, and to Ronnie Gibbs for the photos.



His first championship victory is regarded as one of the league's greatest games and is credited with helping popularize the NFL. Between 1956 and 1960, he set the record for most consecutive games with a touchdown pass at 47, which held for 52 years. Nicknamed «**Johnny U**» and «**the Golden Arm**», Unitas was considered the prototype of the modern era marquee quarterback. He was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1979.

John Constantine Unitas was born in Pittsburgh in 1933 to Francis J. Unitas and Helen Superfisky, both of Lithuanian descent; his surname was a result of a phonetic transliteration of a common Lithuanian last name *Jonaitis*. He grew up in the Mount Washington neighborhood in a Roman Catholic upbringing. When Unitas was five years old, his father died of cardiovascular renal disease complicated by pneumonia, leaving the young boy to be raised by his mother, who worked two jobs to support the family. At St. Justin's High School in Pittsburgh, Unitas played halfback and quarterback.

In his younger years, Unitas dreamed about being part of the Notre Dame Fighting Irish football team, but when he tried out for the team, coach Frank Leahy said that he was just too skinny and he would «get murdered» if he was put on the field. Instead, he attended the University of Louisville. In his four-year career as a Louisville Cardinal, Unitas completed 245 passes for 3,139 yards and 27 touchdowns. Reportedly, the 6 ft 1 in Unitas weighed 145 pounds on his first day of practice. His first start was in the fifth game of the 1951 season against St. Bonaventure, where he threw 11 consecutive passes and three touchdowns to give the Cardinals a 21–19 lead. Louisville ended up losing the game 22–21 on a disputed field goal, but found a new starting quarterback. Unitas completed 12 of 19 passes for 240 yards and four touchdowns in a 35–28 victory over Houston. The team finished the season 5–5 overall and 4–1 with Unitas starting. He completed 46 of 99 passes for 602 yards and nine touchdowns.



By the 1952 season, the university had decided to de-emphasize sports. The new president at Louisville, Dr. Philip Grant Davidson, reduced the amount of athletic aid and tightened academic standards for athletes. As a result, 15 returning players could not meet the new standards and lost their scholarships. Unitas maintained his by taking on a new elective: square dancing. In 1952, coach Frank Camp switched the team to two-way football. Unitas not only played safety or linebacker on defense and quarterback on offense, but also returned kicks and punts on special teams. The Cardinals won their first game against Wayne State, and then Florida State in the second game. Unitas completed 16 of 21 passes for 198 yards and three touchdowns. It was said that Unitas put on such a show at the Florida State game that he threw a pass under his legs for 15 yards. The rest of the season was a struggle for the Cardinals, who finished 3–5. Unitas completed 106 of 198 passes for 1,540 yards and 12 touchdowns. The team won their first game in 1953, against Murray State, and lost the rest for a record of 1–7. One of the most memorable games of the season came in a 59–6 loss against Tennessee. Unitas completed 9 out of 19 passes for 73 yards, rushed 9 times for 52 yards, returned six kickoffs for 85 yards, punted once for three yards, and had 86 percent of the team's tackles. The only touchdown the team scored was in the fourth quarter when Unitas made a fake pitch to the running back and ran the ball 23 yards for a touchdown. Unitas was hurt later in the fourth quarter while trying to run the ball. On his way off the field, he received a standing ovation. When he got to the locker room he was so tired that his jersey and shoulder pads had to be cut off because he could not lift his arms. Louisville ended the season with a 20–13 loss to Eastern Kentucky. Unitas completed 49 of 95 passes for 470 yards and three touchdowns. Unitas was elected captain for the 1954 season, but due to an early injury did not see much playing time. His first start was the third game of the season, against Florida State. Of the 34-man team, 21 were freshmen. The 1954 Cardinals went 3–6, with their last win at home against Morehead State. Unitas was slowed by so many injuries his senior year his 527 passing yards ended second to Jim Houser's 560.



Dotson's Other Note: After his collegiate career, the Pittsburgh Steelers of the NFL drafted Unitas in the ninth round. However, he was released before the season began as the odd man out among four quarterbacks trying to fill three spots. Steelers' head coach Walt Kiesling had made up his mind about Unitas; he thought he was not smart enough to quarterback an NFL team, and he was not given any snaps in practice with the Steelers. Among those edging out Unitas was Ted Marchibroda, future longtime NFL head coach. Out of pro football, Unitas—by this time married—worked in construction in Pittsburgh to support his family. On the weekends, he played quarterback, safety and punter on a local semi-professional team called the Bloomfield Rams for \$6 a game.

TO BE CONTINUED



By Andy Purvis

Before Jackie Robinson

There were only four, the first four African-Americans to play professional football. And guess what? They all started in 1946, one year before Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier with the Brooklyn Dodgers in Major League Baseball. So, sit back, enjoy and discover the brief history of these four players that integrated professional football. Kenny Washington, halfback, was from Los Angeles, California, and attended Abraham Lincoln High School. In 1939, after high school, Kenny rushed for 1,914 yards in his UCLA career, a school record that stood for 34 years. He led the nation in total offense and became the first consensus All-American in the history of the UCLA Bruins' football program. Washington felt the wrath of discrimination when he was left out of the East-West Shrine Game that same year. After graduation from UCLA, Chicago Bears Head Coach, George Halas, tried to sign Washington but was blocked by racial discrimination from the other NFL owners. So from 1941-1945, Kenny joined a semi-pro football team known as the Hollywood Bears, of the Pacific Coast League. When the Cleveland Rams moved to Los Angeles in 1946, an agreement was drawn up between owners, that teams could be integrated. Washington signed with the Rams on March 21, 1946. Kenny only played in the NFL for three years, but his performance was exceptional. Washington was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1956, and his jersey #13 was the first to be retired by UCLA. He would become a distinguished police officer for the LA Police Department. In 1971, Washington died at the young age of 52.

«Woody» Strode is a name you will know if you enjoyed John Wayne westerns, as he starred in many of the big-screen movies produced by John Ford. Strode was not only a football star, but a decathlete in track and field. He was born in Los Angeles, California, and attended high school at Jefferson, located in East L.A. He later enrolled at UCLA in 1939, where he joined Jackie Robinson and Kenny Washington in the Bruins' backfield. Ray Bartlett was the fourth member of the UCLA backfield and he, too, was an African-American. This was at a time where there were only a dozen or so black players participating on college football teams across the land. The Bruins would play the National Champion USC Trojans to a 0-0 tie, in the 1940 Rose Bowl. Strode would sign with the Los Angeles Rams on May 7, 1946. No other black players had played in the NFL from 1933 to 1945. In 1948, Strode joined the Calgary Stampeders as an offensive end and helped them win the Grey Cup Championship that same year. Strode retired in 1949, because of injuries. Woody Strode also dabbled in professional wrestling, before the NFL and afterwards. Standing 6' 4" tall and weighing well over 200 pounds, he was billed as the 1962 Pacific Coast Negro Heavyweight Wrestling Champion. Strode also became a terrific actor and is best remembered for his roles in Spartacus, Sergeant Rutledge and The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance. Strode had parts in 67 movies during his career. Woody died in 1994 of lung cancer. He was 80.

Bill Willis bent over and put his hand in the dirt for eight seasons for the Cleveland Browns. He was an excellent defensive lineman who was selected All-Pro all eight years, while winning four AAFC Championships (All American Football Conference) and the 1950 NFL Championship.

The Browns beat the New York Giants 8-3, as Willis made a game-saving tackle in the fourth quarter on Gene «Choo-Choo» Roberts. You can also find Willis in the Cleveland Browns' Ring of Honor and a part of the NFL's 1940's All-Decade Team. Coach Paul Brown called Willis «One of the outstanding linemen in the history of professional football.» After graduating from Columbus East High School, Bill attended Ohio State from 1941-1945, and then signed with the Cleveland Browns in 1946. Born in Columbus, Ohio, Bill also joined the Buckeyes' track and field team at Ohio State and was a part of the Buckeyes' first National Championship Football team, in 1942. Bill retired in 1954 at the age of 32, and became Cleveland's first chairman of the Ohio Youth Commission. His goal was to help troubled youth in the Cleveland area. His #99 was retired by the Buckeyes, and he entered the College Football Hall of Fame in 1971. He has also been a member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame since 1977. Bill Willis #30, died in 2007.

Marion Motley signed ten days after Bill Willis with the Cleveland Browns. Born in Leesburg, Georgia, Marion grew up in Canton, Ohio. He attended and played football and basketball at Canton McKinley High School. After graduation, Motley enrolled at South Carolina State College in 1939, but later transferred to the University of Nevada before his sophomore year. In 1943, he suffered a knee injury and returned to Canton after dropping out of school. Motley joined the U.S. Navy in 1944 and managed to play fullback and linebacker for a military team known as the Great Lakes Blue Jackets, coached by none other than Paul Brown. By 1946, Motley was back in Canton working in a steel mill. In one of the oddest recruiting stories ever told, Motley wrote Paul Brown and asked for a tryout. Brown declined, but later signed Bill Willis. After Willis made the team, Brown reconsidered and asked Marion Motley to come try out. Brown later admitted that Willis had needed an African-American roommate. Motley signed for \$4,500 a year and averaged 8.2 yards per carry in his first season. Marion led the league in rushing in 1948, as the Cleveland Browns posted a perfect 15-0 record. When the league folded after the 1949 season, Motley was the AAFC's all-time rushing leader with 3,024 yards. There was another pleasant surprise. Paul Brown estimated that more than 10,000 black fans attended Cleveland's first game. As mentioned above, Cleveland won the 1950 NFL Championship and, by 1951, Motley began to feel the physical effects of the game and suffered a knee injury. Marion Motley would retire before the 1954 season started. His career rushing average of 5.7 yards per carry is still the all-time rushing record for fullbacks. Motley asked many NFL teams for a coaching job but was turned down. He later worked for the U.S. Postal Service, Miller Construction, and the Ohio Department of Youth Services. Motley died in 1999 of prostate cancer. He was the second African-American player to be elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Motley was also named to the NFL's 75th Anniversary All-Time Team in 1994.

It would be hard to imagine the game of pro football without the likes of players like Walter Payton, Jerry Rice and David «Deacon» Jones.


Andy Purvis
www.purvisbooks.com

Around cont. from AI

side. As of mid-week no plans have been announced by the Padre Isles Property Owners Association for connecting the existing canals to the new bridge and the new canals at the Whitecap North Padre Island site where the bulkheads are in place for the new marina which will be located immediately west of the new bridge. The Island Mobility Study is now in the public comment phase and when completed will connect the two pedestrian and cart paths under the bridge to an Island-wide grid of paths that will allow free access to all areas of The Island. The bridge has been a long time coming and we will feature a history of the project in the next issue but it is about to be a reality folks, and unlike many Island projects is on time and on budget.

Port of Corpus Christi

When Port Aransas resident Charlie Zahn terms out as the Chairman of the Corpus Christ Port Commission in January after a decade in a leadership role Dr. Bryan Gulley will be the sole remaining member of the seven-member board from The Island if he is reappointed in December by the Nueces County Commissioners Court. Zahn was the first Island resident appointed and since Gulley's appointment he and Zahn have been active in port leadership. As of mid-week the county commissioners had not set a firm date for a vote on the reappointment, but a vote is expected by the end of December. The next edition of the Island Moon will hit the racks on Tuesday, November 21, in the meantime say hello if you see us Around The Island.



By Jay Gardner

There were a lot of good updates recently at the Island Strategic Action Committee meeting regarding Island projects. In addition, two new members were voted on by the city council the following day, Islanders Stephen Armstrong and Cheryl Segrest. Welcome aboard, and feel free to reach out to me for your homework assignments before the next meeting. Ha! Just kidding.

Riley P. Dog Park

We also got some additional updates on the Riley P Dog Park, and we’re glad that the new chair of the Parks and Recs Board, Linda Lindsey is also pushing it from her end. She did mention that some shade structures are needed at the dog park, and I’m betting that a local metal roofing company might have something laying around that they could donate.

Beach bathrooms and lifeguard station

Island liaison Roger Montelongo mentioned the proposed bathrooms and lifeguard station on Zahn Road, and we’re expecting to see some proposed layouts at the next meeting in December along with the Mobility Plan.

Island Area Development Plan

In advance of the next ISAC meeting, the Area Development Plan (ADP) subcommittee will be looking at the wastewater master plan draft that was recently submitted by one of the newer city consultants. As I breezed through the 650-page document the other day, I noticed that some of the “paper lift stations and force mains” for undeveloped sections of the Island do not align with plans that have been permitted, or that are pending. We will need to review the documents and provide feedback to the city/consultant on some of the plans before they are adopted. There are several incorrect layouts based on approved USACE permits, largely circuitous routes, missing segments, and offset priorities. Since we live here and are paying attention, we know what is being planned and what needs to occur in what order. Local knowledge like that will save tons and tons of money and time as the Island is built out.

Thanks to Councilman Dan

We all need to thank our District 4 city councilman Dan Suckley for continuing to push for the Bond 2018 projects under the east side of the JFK Causeway. That is the first entrance to the Island, and it qualifies as a blighted area despite having many popular attractions. The TGLO lease was extended to 2073 for the parking lot from

Clem’s to Billings, so we’re not waiting on anything there to pave that area. However, the tough cookie to crack has been the area underneath the bridge with TxDoT. If you haven’t been down there in the past week, Muddle and Puddle are back. That area is caught in a red tape negative feedback loop. To that end, Dan reached out to a higher source, and come to find out, there has been an agreement with TxDoT for that area since 1979! We could have been doing projects under there the whole time! (with TxDoT approval of course). I got my hot little hands on a copy the other day and have been looking it over. While that Multiple Use Agreement needs to be updated at the Austin level, the original includes language that indicates that TxDoT is on board with doing projects under the bridge. The MUA states, “Whereas, the City has requested the State to approve and assist in development and operation as a multiple use area, for recreation, parking, and other public purposes, the area within the right-of-way of Park Road 22 on the JFK Causeway.” The rest of the language appears to be in the spirit of cooperation, without many caveats other than 1) preapproval of projects by TxDoT, and 2) ingress and egress to perform maintenance on the bridge. I promise you that the contractor that is doing work under the JFK right now would have seriously appreciated the city improving the surface under the bridge that way they wouldn’t have had to literally pump out Muddle and/or Puddle just to access their equipment sitting in salt water.

To that end, I got to visit with Representative Todd Hunter at the State of the Port the other day, and he’s going to get up to speed on it from his end, at least regarding what’s going on with the negotiations in Austin. Thanks Todd! In addition, the State of the Port saw long time friend Charlie Zahn wrap up his 12 years with as chairman of the Port Commission with an inspiring presentation about where the port came from and what’s been done. We will miss you at the helm Charlie. Alright folks, I’ve gone way over this week, but there’s a lot that I want to keep y’all informed of, with efforts that are occurring to get things done On the Island. Drop me a line at tarponchaser@mail.com and definitely say hi if you see me bombing around the Island this next week. That means I busted it and got my chores done and they let me go play!



The King Ranch shoreline in 4’ of water will land you right in the middle of a bunch of nice trout like this one, just be there during a major lunar feeding time.

Thank You’s & Giving

By Joey Farah

Do not miss the true meaning of the Holidays, stay close to family and friends and rejoice in all that is good. I’ve been feeling blessed with my family and those closest to me, but this year has been a rollercoaster ride for sure. I lost my father who many of us on the Island knew and loved. But from that loss I’ve gained a granddaughter, and another on the way!, a beautiful woman to share life with and more family. I am so thankful for my ISLAND MOON FAMILY and all of the readers for 26yrs of putting up with my weekly ramblings! When it comes down to it all, you need family to fall back on when life smacks you on the back. Even the family that you may find walking the beach or a stranger with a smile at the corner store here on the Island. This year for the holidays let’s just walk a little slower, stop and enjoy the salty air and know that we are on ISLAND TIME! And be thankful for that alone.

Anywhere on this island is only a short walk to the sea, and good fishing. This is the time of year that a hand full of soft plastic lures in your pocket and a rod and reel can be all you need to stop and throw a line on and have some great catching. All of the canals, channels, flats, boat ramps, and harbors in Port A and on North Padre are good right now and only get better as it gets colder. Cement bulkheads hold heat and attract fish. Carry two sizes of jig heads, 1/8 & 1/4 oz. This paired with soft plastics in bright, natural, and dark colors. Put them on strait and bump the bottom, pretty simple.

On the boat we have been centralizing our fishing in 3-4’ of water. As we receive our first front that drops the water temps into the 50’s we will finally see the bull of baitfish and gamefish fall into deep water. Right now they are still in the flats. Our high tides have them holding right to the transi-

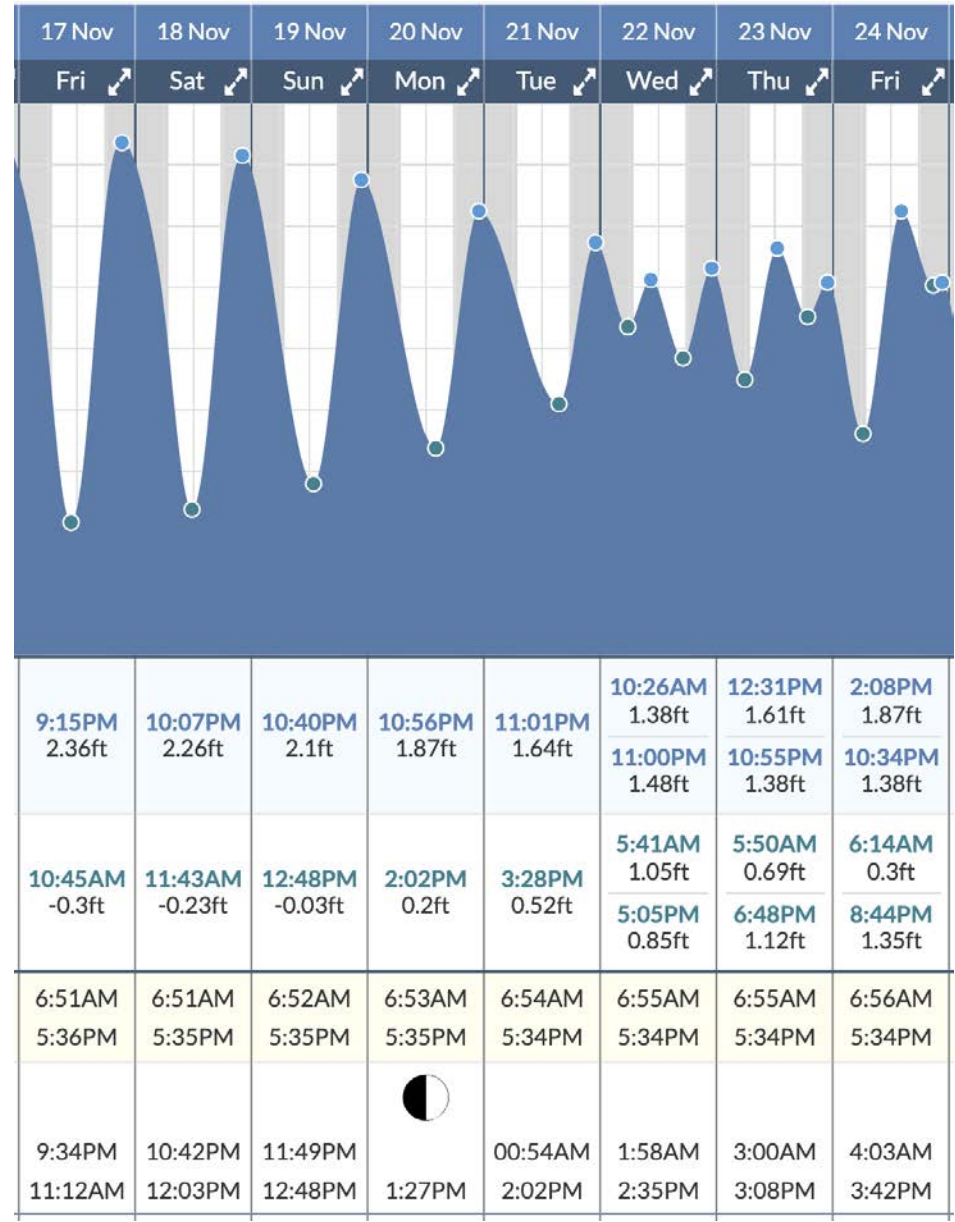
tion zones along the Laguna Madre and the shorelines of Baffin Bay. Follow clear water and fish the slightly off colored green areas. Lunar feeding times are very important to success as there is so much for the gamefish to eat there is no pressure. After the cold snaps I’ve found my best results from small baits and as things warm up I’m moving towards the larger soft plastics and hard baits.

CALL ME FOR THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFT! A guided fishing trip for your loved ones, friends, or business associates. They can take them any time throughout the year and build lifelong memories. This is a great gift of knowledge for that fisherman in your life that has everything, now they can sharpen their skills and learn new places and techniques of finding and catching gamefish. Follow all of our fishing on FACEBOOK AT JOEY FARAH’S BACKWATER FISHING 361-442-8145



This nice trout came from a drift in the shallow flats just off of the ICW Canal on a DOWN SOUTH LURES STRAWBERRY WINE.

Tides of the Week





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Nature Notes

Ibises of the Upper Texas Coast

By Celeste Silling

*A White-faced Ibis hunting in the wetlands*

Photo by Mike Williams

Here in coastal Texas, we are fortunate to have a wide variety of bird species that inhabit or pass through our area. Some of the most common and easily identifiable birds on the coast are ibises. Ibises are a group of wading birds with long legs and long downcurved bills. They belong to the family Threskiornithidae and usually inhabit wetlands, forests, and plains. These birds have an interesting natural history, and are some of the most culturally significant birds in the world!

According to historians, ancient Egyptians believed that the ibis was one manifestation of Thoth, the god of divine knowledge, magic and writing. Thoth was a prevalent God in Egyptian mythology, and was often depicted as a humanoid being with the head of an ibis. One of the roles Thoth played was in the underworld, where he would weigh the hearts of the deceased against a feather to judge how they had lived their lives on Earth.

Because of their connection to the god, ibises were revered by the ancient Egyptians and considered to be the Earthly form of Thoth. In fact, starting in about 1100BC, there was a long period of Egyptian history in which ibises were mummified as an offering to Thoth. This became such a common practice that several million of the birds were killed and mummified for the practice. They were placed in pairs in urns underneath cities all along the Nile river.

The species of Ibis that the Thoth

depictions were based upon was the African Sacred Ibis. This particular bird went extinct in Egypt in the mid 19th century but we can still see similar species all over the world today. As of now, there are 29 extant (living) species of ibis and 4 extinct species. Of those, three species can be seen here in Texas: the White Ibis, the Glossy Ibis, and the White-faced Ibis. The White Ibis is easily identified by its white feathers, long pink legs, and long red-black bill. These birds flock together and can often be seen flying overhead in a V-shaped formation, or gathering in wetlands. These are quite common in our area, so they're relatively easy to find! The White-faced and Glossy Ibises are more difficult to identify, as they look very similar to one another. The White-faced Ibis has maroon-brown iridescent feathers all over its body, with a slight outline of white feathers around its eyes and bill. The Glossy Ibis looks much the same, but without the white. Both of these species can be seen on the Upper Texas Coast, but the White-faced are more common. Looking at an ibis, it's easy to see why the Egyptians saw them as divine. These birds are beautiful, with their long, elegant beaks and iridescent plumage. So, while we might revere them as gods now, we can certainly still appreciate them. If you have the time, take a trip to your local wildlife refuge, rookery, or wetlands and see if you can't spot a flock of these ancient and awesome birds!

STRs cont. from A1

ordinance, since January, 16, 2023. The amount any fines levied in the cases will be at the discretion of a Municipal Court Judge but based on standard fines for the alleged offenses could total just over \$30,000.

Mostaghasi said if he is found guilty in the city cases he will go to state court to challenge the ban on leasing houses for overnight stay in Island residential neighborhoods zoned RS-6 which includes most Island residential areas, but said he has not yet filed any cases. Each citation by city code compliance officers carries a fine of \$500, which according to listings for the three houses being leased as STR is about the same as the daily fee for leasing one of the houses.

Mostaghasi said he built a total of fifteen STR houses across the city with three of them on Padre Island and neighbors at the three STR properties, 13938 Longboat Dr., 13950 Blackbeard Dr., and 15621 Finistere St., have complained of excessive noise, trash, and parking problems at each of the locations leading to the citations by city inspectors. The number of citations issued

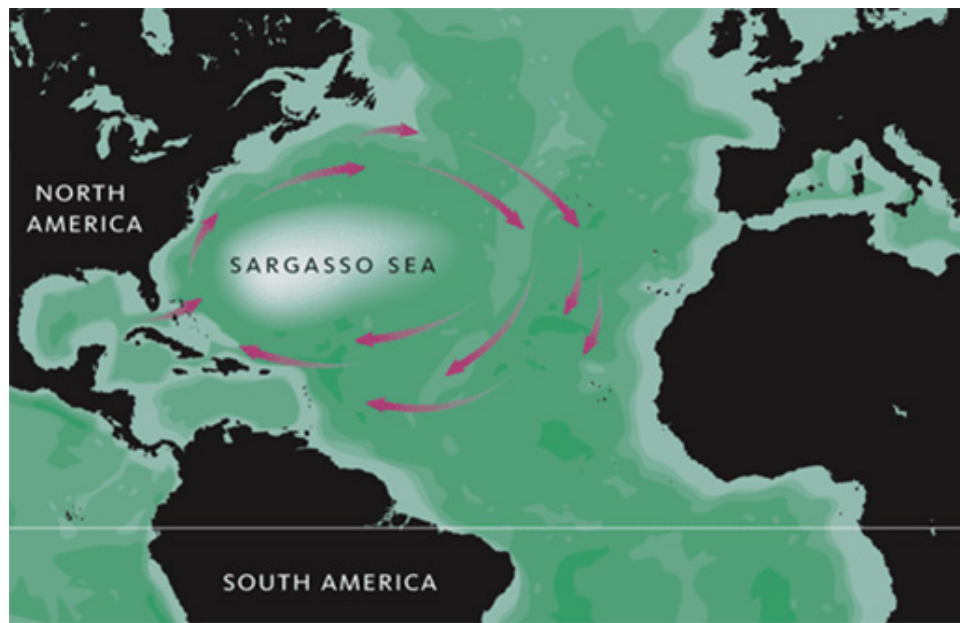
in response to the STR houses has escalated through 2023 as reflected in city records in what city officials called "a greatly-elevated enforcement effort." Island neighborhoods are the only area of the city where STR are prohibited under the terms of a 2021 city ordinance passed by the Corpus Christi City Council banning leasing a house in a neighborhood zoned for strictly residential use for less than thirty days on Padre Island. The ban does not apply to any other area of the city, it also allows STR in areas zoned multi-family. The ban applies primarily to homes on the west side of SPID with most areas on the east (Gulf of Mexico) side of SPID allowed to rent as STR. Suckley said one possibility is raising the fine for violations of the STR ordinance, however, there may be some legal complications due to state law.

Mostaghasi said Wednesday he currently has other houses under construction in residential areas of Padre Island but none of them will be leased as STR, however, he said he is still offering the three houses where he has been previously cited as STR.

Going Native

Sargassum the good, the bad, the ugly

By Ed Proffitt

*Map of the Sargasso Sea*

Pictures of the seaweed sargassum, which isn't a plant by the way but a macro-algae, have been making the rounds in the Island Moon recently so I thought a bit of a review might be in order. There are over a hundred species of sargassum in different parts of the world --- all considered to be "brown algae" (Phylum or Division Phaeophyta). In the Gulf, we have two important species, Sargassum natans and S. fluitans. Historically (meaning here the algal "good old days"), patches of floating sargassum seaweed occurred in the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean, but was most abundant off the Atlantic seaboard where it constituted an entire ecosystem termed the Sargasso Sea. The ocean explorer and scientist, Sylvia Earle, once termed the Sargasso Sea as a "golden floating rainforest." Here's a bit of trivia that you can use to impress your friends with at parties: it's the only sea that is bounded on all sides by currents (four major ones together forming a clockwise circulating gyre) rather than by a land mass on at least one side. Now see... aren't you glad to know that!

The Sargasso Sea ecosystem, as well as floating patches elsewhere in the Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico, are critical habitat for many species of fish and invertebrates, and some odd species have evolved to mimic sargassum in appearance such as the sargassum fish (genus Histrio).

However, the good old days appear to be gone as "blooms" of sargassum have occurred regularly in recent years and cause serious problems for local ecologic and economic conditions over a broad area. Some increases were noted a bit earlier, but large blooms began happening every year or so in 2011 and truly massive blooms occurred in some years such as 2018. The blooms can wash up into shallow waters (where they smother seagrass and coral) and on beaches (where they can drive tourists away with the stink and insects they attract). There are also reports with floating mats being so thick in some places that sea turtles and dolphins have trouble getting to the surface to breathe.

Researchers from the University of South Florida (my alma mater!), NOAA, and elsewhere have been studying the "blooming issue" (sorry, I had too). For details on their work tracking sargassum blooms via satellite and modeling "ecological drivers" that cause the blooms visit the USF web site:

[https://www.usf.edu/marine-science/news/2019/scientists-discover-the-biggest-seaweed-bloom-in-the-world.aspx#:~:text=ST.,\)%2C%20as%20reported%20in%20Science.](https://www.usf.edu/marine-science/news/2019/scientists-discover-the-biggest-seaweed-bloom-in-the-world.aspx#:~:text=ST.,)%2C%20as%20reported%20in%20Science.)

They term the area of blooms the Great Atlantic Sargassum Belt that can arise off the coast of Africa, and extend across the Atlantic to the Caribbean and then enter the Gulf of Mexico via the Loop and other currents. These scientists link deforestation in the Amazon coupled with increased fertilizer for agriculture in that basin, along with changing temperature regimes and ocean upwelling, as the cause of the larger than typical blooms that began in 2011. In some years, like 2013, when blooms didn't occur they believe that atypically low amounts of sargassum in the winter just didn't provide a sufficient "starting point" for massive algal growth in spring and summer. Their unhappy prediction is that large blooms are the new normal and without a means to control massive fertilizer runoff communities will have to learn to adapt and prepare as they would for a hurricane or other natural disaster. This year, winter levels of sargassum were high and so large blooms seem likely in 2022.

So far, the quantities of sargassum we get are miniscule compared to the Caribbean and parts of Florida. We'll have to wait and see if that remains the case.



(A)



(B)



(C)

*Sargassum Fish*

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Business Briefs

By Mary Craft
mkay512@aol.com

Padre Island Pickle will have 12 indoor courts, outdoor space, yard games, food trucks and beer & wine. It will be located on Park Road 22 between Seapines and Encantada. You can subscribe to their newsletter at their web site to get updates on the development and progress.



The Port Aransas Chamber of Commerce announced a partnership with the Dallas Cowboys last week. The AT&T Stadium will showcase promos on game days that advertise Port A is the official vacation destination of the team.

Irie's in Port A is now Irie's Island Bakery. Due to staffing issues the last three years making it hard to serve well prepared hot food they have switched to a bakery. Pastries, cakes, croissants, muffins, cookies, pies, chicken salad, tuna salad, and egg salad sandwiches, soups, green salads, various desserts, hot beignets and more. Hours are 8 am - 4 pm daily except Sunday 8 am - 2 pm and closed on Mondays.



The Flour Bluff Hornets football team will face SA Veterans Memorial in the 5A Division II area championship on Friday, November 17th. Go to the livestream link on the Flour Bluff Athletics Facebook page to listen to the game. Hardknocks Sports Grill hosted a dinner for the team. The Hornets volleyball team had an undefeated district championship for a second year in a row.

Guajillos has expanded the restaurant seating. Owner Fernando is proud to announce that son Andres who is a sommelier has joined the staff. Andres, with his wine expertise, has added wines to go with the dishes on the menu.



South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center has free admission for guests who bring a plastic bottle or single use bag on November 18, 24 and 25. HEB is sponsoring Texas Recycles Days by underwriting this event. Holly Days is every weekend starting Friday, November 25th with hay rides, photos with Santa, petting zoo, photos with animals, s'mores 7 cocoa and more. The facility is located at 8545 S. Staples and is dog friendly.



Urban Air Adventure Park is opening Saturday, November 18th according to the person I talked to when I tried to book a birthday party. They are not booking parties yet but I was told you can after it opens. The birthday hotline is 800-960-4778 and get \$99 off with code PARTY99 with certain restrictions. It is located at 4701 S. Staples where Get Air was located across the street from La Palmer mall.

Gypsy Mermaid Pop Up Shop will be at the Slip on Friday, November 17th 4 - 8 pm with 10% off everything. The bar is located behind Guajillo's.



Two Broadway show tickets at the Selena Auditorium go on sale this week. Stomp is on Thursday, February 8th and Chicago - The Musical on Thursday, April 25th.

The Padre Island Enrichment club (PIE) annual PIE sale will be on Tuesday, November 21st 9 am until 11 am or until sold out which it always is. These fresh baked pies will be sold from the Hardknocks patio this year. Funds raised go towards scholarships for graduating Seniors who reside on Padre Island. This year four \$2,500 scholarships totaling \$10,000 will be distributed.

If you don't want to cook Thanksgiving dinner options:

Black Sheep Bistro will be serving a Thanksgiving Day meal 1 - 5 pm. The main courses are turkey, honey ham, smoked prime rib and smoked beef tenderloin. The meal includes a choice of four desserts and bottomless mimosas. The price is \$45/person and \$25 for children under age 12. The meal is by reservation only so call 210-418-4819 or email gmier@

theangrymarlin.com. You can also reserve on their website.

Miss K's Bistro & Catering in Port A Thanksgiving menu includes turkey, dressing, green beans, spinach salad, sweet potato soufflé with pecan topping, mashed potatoes and gravy. Dessert choices are pecan, apple or pumpkin pie.

HEB Thanksgiving meal with choice of turkey breast, whole turkey or baked ham. Green bean casserole and cornbread stuffing.

Moody's Quality Meats has hickory smoked turkeys and a variety of sides. They are located 6486 Holly Road and can be reached at 992-6512.

Oh My! Resort Furnishings has sold to another furniture store so there is a close out sale of 40% off everything until the last day Tuesday, November 28th. The hours are 10 am - 5 pm and Sunday 11 am - 3 pm. The store is located near Scuttlebutt's.



Random Stuff


Pillsbury Banana Bread Batter came out this past summer and finally became available last week here at HEB. Just squeeze out the dough into a loaf pan and an hour later you can enjoy it and it's especially good warm and spread with butter. It really tastes like you made it from scratch.



Monday Night Football is way more fun to watch on ESPN2 with Peyton and Eli Manning. Last game they had Patrick Mahomes watching the game with them and he was so good at predicting what play was going to be called next.




Portland native and artist Wade Koniakowsky unveiled a new work created especially for Padre Island at the Padre Island Art Gallery during a three-day workshop. Koniakowsky is California-based and a lifelong surfer and that has inspired his oil painting of seascapes which are featured in galleries from Europe to Hawaii. He held a workshop for Island artists at the gallery which ran from Thursday, November 9, to Saturday, November 11, and included a reception at the gallery on Saturday where a piece created specifically for Padre Island was revealed. Koniakowsky has been a frequent visitor to Port Aransas over the decades but this was his first exhibition on Padre Island.



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15406 Cuttysark St. Canal lot—100+ feet of bulkhead—9258 sq. ft. Quick access to the main channel & water exchange bridge. **\$299,900** **Dorothy Ernst 361-563-8486**



14245 Ambrosia St. Cute on large corner lot, 1/2 block from boat ramp. 3/2/2 split plan. 1,356 sf. Room for boat or RV under cover. **\$387,000** Call **Pam Morgan** at 361-215-8116.



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



14911 Village Beach Dr. 2/2 gorgeous poolside townhome just a quick walk to the beach! 1041 sq. ft. & fully furnished. **\$450,000**. Call **Kim Mogford** at 361-434-8522.



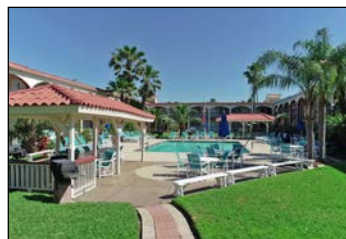
14010 Eaglesnest Bay 3/2.5/2 + bonus/flex room at 2,142 sq.ft. Open plan, new roof & HVAC in 2017. All new hurricane windows, 3M water treatment system. Large backyard w/room for a pool. **Randy Corpuz 361-765-9914**.



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



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



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



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13906 Mingo Cay #6
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15357 Yardarm
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Not much Beach By Catherine Pottier Toran



Evelyn Pless-Schuberth



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Thoughts from Reverend Ken

By Rev. Dr. Ken

Thanksgiving. Henry J.M. Nouwen once suggested that the purest, simplest holiday may be Thanksgiving. Christmas is distorted by our culture that promotes consumer madness and ritual idealism. Next week we will not receive sales pitches on gratitude but about the best deals available on Black Friday. Afterall, we are told, excessive consumption can make it a season to remember. No wonder we cynically begin to think the holidays are too shallow.

It has been suggested that you can divide the world into two groups, those who say thank you and those who do not. That might be simplistic. Yet, in our narcissistic culture, it's closer to truth than not.

Gratitude knows the value of what we have received, rather than being focused on what we still lack. Giving thanks springs from perception and articulation. It is the ability to recognize blessing and giving expression, no matter how inadequate it may seem at the time.

Every time sight and word are combined, giving thanks reveals a second blessing. Gratitude draws us out of ourselves into something larger, bigger, grander than we could ever imagine. Gratitude is part and parcel to healing and wholeness, hope and peace. Gratitude moves our focus from self to other, so that love and compassion can take root.

The world is full of challenge. It's a noisy world of incendiary ideologies and agendas. The cacophony of caustic rhetoric and propaganda is deafening. Some might suggest we are amid full-blown insanity, where inhumaneness, greed, evil, disease, and death rule unchecked.

Thanksgiving gives us the opportunity to step away from the edge of despair and apathy. Life without gratitude is a life devoid of love and passion, hope and life. Anxiety and fear, chaos and uncertainty surround. Gratitude doesn't change the circumstances of the world or our relationships. But, it does help us see the situation through faith and hope.

This week, we Christians might find

ourselves singing the classic song, *Now Thank We All Our God*. Yes, it is one of those old church songs. It was written during the Thirty Years War in Germany in the early 1600's by a Lutheran pastor in Eilenburg. Eilenburg was a walled city and had become a haven for refugees. Soon the city became too crowded, food was in short supply, famine and plague followed. The city became a giant morgue. Sounds very contemporary.

In one year alone the pastor did a thousand funerals, including his wife's. As the war dragged on the suffering continued. Yet, even in the darkest days of agony he wrote the song. He was waist deep in destruction and death. However, he was able to lift his sights to a higher plane. He kept his mind on God's love in a world filled with hate and death.

Gratitude is not the denial of real pain and loss. It is not even the exercise of making a list of things for which we think we should be grateful. Gratitude cannot be manufactured. Gratitude bears little resemblance to the forced optimism underlying the admonition to, "count your blessings." Pithy idioms rarely are effective beyond the surface of our souls.

Gratitude is a gift. It is the recognition that love and mercy have not abandoned us to our destructive ways. There will be plenty of time for the excesses of holiday. But first, be at peace in gratitude. Be raised above the chaos to the higher plane of hope and love.

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

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

pastor@islandpresby.com



2023 La Posada Schedule

La Posada Toys for Tots Kickoff Party

Friday, December 1, 6 p.m.

HardKnocks Sports Bar & Grill

There is no charge for entry to the party, guests are encouraged to bring a toy for Toys for Tots.

La Posada Lighted Boat Parade

Friday, December 8, 7 p.m. Broadcast by KRIS 6 Television from Snoopy's Oyster Bar

Begins at JFK Bridge continues through North Island canals

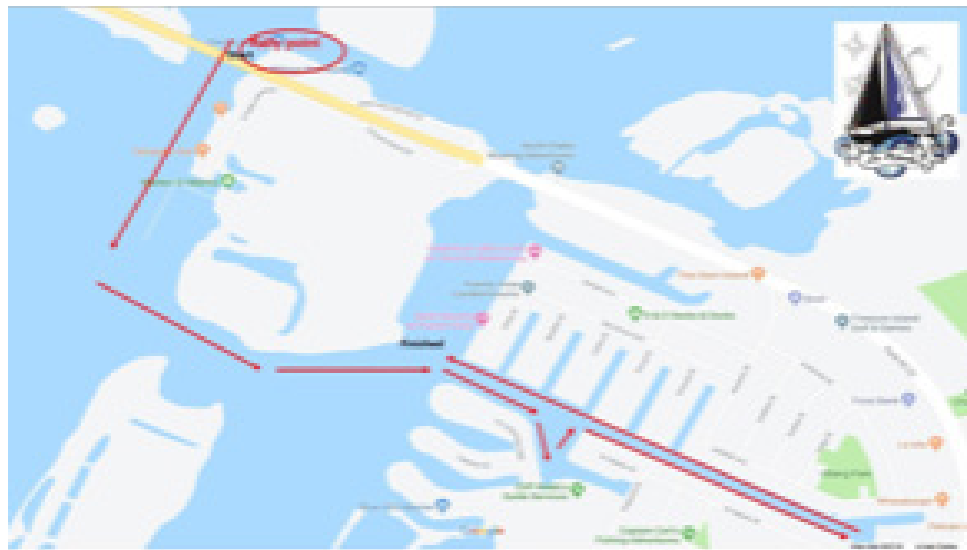
Lighted Boat Parade Watch Party

Friday, December 8, 7 p.m. HardKnocks Sports Bar & Grill

La Posada Lighted Boat Parade

Saturday, December 9

Begins 6 p.m. at Caravel Boat Ramp continues through South Island canals



Friday night Parade Route



Saturday night Parade Route



Andy Dever Larson

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To The Padre Island Poker Run

Saturday 25th, 2023 1-4 pm

Free Local Event!

This month's theme:
"Christmas" Join us for poker, prizes, and entertainment.
Event and donations will benefit the CASA of the Coastal Bend
(CASA supports local foster kids)
 Consider donating: Gift cards for toys, clothes, shoes, coats, school supplies, backpacks and hygiene needs.

The caravan and sign up starts at the Black Sheep Bistro/Barrel at 1pm, continues to Island Italian, moves to the Boat House and then finishes at The Angry Marlin Tiki Bar. Last draw and prizes at 4pm.
For more information about this event or details about the next monthly themed poker event go to Facebook @AngryMarlinRestaurant

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

Knuckle-Cracker

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Mind-Numbing Frustration

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6					1		
		7					2
	9	6			7	1	5

Brain-Buster

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8						4	2
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		8			9		4

Across

1. Used a firehouse pole
5. Goodyear icon
10. Domestic's word
14. Turpentine source
15. Privately owned Hawaiian island
16. Recognize the intentions of
17. Word with heart or tooth
18. Whittle away
19. Poetic foot
20. It may go with a beer budget, unfortunately
23. Conger line member?
24. Get a lode of this
25. Mathematician's highest degree?
26. Genuflect
28. One way to run
31. Organ of equilibrium
34. Extra dose of trouble
38. Razor brand
41. Painter of big-eyed children
42. Entertainer Martha
43. What the Juilliard String Quartet plays
46. Vietnamese holiday
47. Concerning
48. Cause friction
52. Fireplace shelf
54. Pendulum direction?
56. Senate majority?
57. U.S. president, 1861-1865
62. Earth unit
63. Not silently
64. Jay Gould's railroad
65. First-class
66. Vampire vanquisher
67. Turner of "Madame X"
68. Viscount or marquess, e.g.
69. Whetstone user
70. It moves on a white bed

Island Crossword

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20					21						22			
23					24						25			
26					27						28	29	30	
					34						35			
38	39	40									41			
43					44						45			
46					47						48		49	50
					52	53					54	55		
					57						58	59	60	
62											61			
65											63			
68											64			
											65			
											66			
											67			
											68			
											69			
											70			

Down

1. "Crimes of the Heart" star
2. It may grow on rocks
3. Start to breathe
4. Form an opinion
5. Make dim
6. Concession stand word
7. Complicit
8. Whipped up
9. First name in geometric painting
10. Like fresh brownies
11. Bête noire
12. "Hey, Mom! Look ___!"
13. Type of scene
21. Game divided into chukkers
22. Egyptian symbol of life
27. Mild cheese
28. Remember this!
29. It's read at the table
30. Carries a mortgage
32. Pulitzer poet Lowell
33. Pastrami partner
35. Picked-on instruments, briefly
36. Host Convy or Parks
37. Sight on the Champs Elysees
38. Word with riot or class
39. "We ___ People ..."
40. Basil with a magnifying glass
44. ___ au rhum
45. Screen symbol
49. Indifferent to ethical standards
50. Like a leopard
51. Group of nine
53. Efficiency expert's goal
54. Bit of serendipity
55. Bicyclist, e.g.
57. Shampoo ingredient, perhaps
58. Kind of house
59. Cumulus lead-in
60. Distress indicator
61. Animation frames
62. Commencement wear



No beach island.
Evelyn Pless-Schuberth

Police Blotter November 6-12

JFK Causeway to SPID-Aquarius intersection

Disturbances

- 14300 block SPID 5 p.m. November 8
- 14300 block SPID 3 p.m. November 8

Suspicious Person

- 10800 block SPID 2 p.m. November 6

Traffic

- 31 Traffic Stops

SPID West to Laguna Madre

Crimes against Person

- 14300 block SPID Midnight November 11
Shots Fired

Crimes against Property

- 13700 block A La Entrada Calle Noon
November 10 Theft \$30,000-0\$150,000
- 15600 block Gypsy 4 p.m. November 9
Burglary of a Building

Disturbances

- Bounty Ave./Gypsy 11 p.m. November 10
Public Intoxication/Possession of Controlled
Substance

- 13700 block Primavera 7 p.m. November 6

- 15600 block Cuttysark 1 p.m. November 09
Wanted Person

Suspicious Person

- 15400 block Fortuna Bay 1 a.m. November 12
- 15400 block Salt Cay Midnight November 12
- 15700 Cuttysark 4 p.m. November 10

Traffic

- 146 Traffic Stops

SPID East to Gulf of Mexico north to City Limits

Crimes against Property

- 15200 block Windward 9 a.m. November 12
Theft of Property
- 15200 block Windward Dr. Theft \$100-\$750

Traffic

- 69 Traffic Stops
- SH 361/Sea Way Dr. 2 p.m. November 8 Crash

Moon Classifieds #1022

Here's how to place a Classified Ad

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

Costs start at \$12 for 25 words, 20 cents a word after that per issue. For a small additional charge, your ad can be centered, made larger or pictures or clip art can be added. Ads with payment can be taken to our office at: 14646 Compass St., Suite 3

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The Island Newspaper since 1996

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Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit by Kimberly Parlasca dba Coastal Toast Cafe LLC, to be located at 11862 Highway 361 Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas. Officer of said corporation is Kimberly Parlasca; her title is Manager.

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MISSING CAT

Last seen in Sea Pines/Bay Bean Dr. Area 10/20/23

Large Brown Tabby with a Bobtail - His Name is "Bobby" and is Microchipped

Any information or sightings, please call 361-271-5124



Roseate Spoonbill By Riekie Roncinske

Crossword Solution

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



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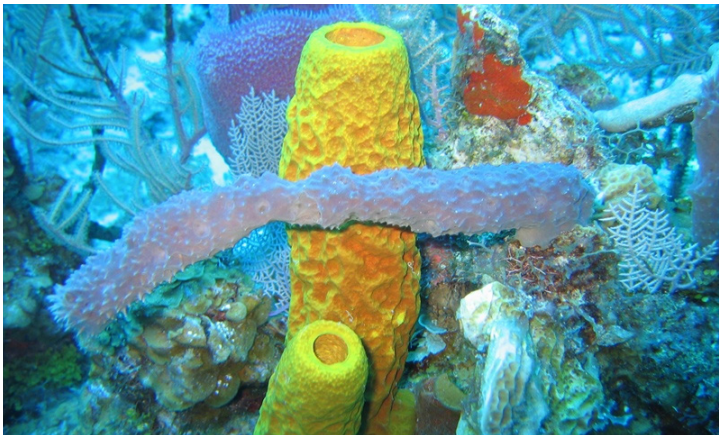
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Science and the Sea™

A Sponge Sneeze Feast

Every time you sneeze, your body is taking the opportunity to violently eject allergens, viruses, bacteria, chemicals or other particles trying to invade your nose that don't need to be there. It's waste that might even make you sick if your body didn't force it out. But what if sneezing was also how you cleaned your entire body, like taking a shower? That's how "sneezes" are for sea sponges. And the sponges take their time with their body-cleansing too—up to half an hour for a single sneeze!



Sea sponges will "sneeze" when there are too many particles that are unwanted or too big for them to filter and eat. The sponge will excrete these waste particles in a mucus that collects on the outer surface, which nearby fish will feast upon. Credit: NOAA-OE

Sponges gather their food by pulling in water through various openings and then filtering food particles out of the water before pushing the water back out. But since sponges are firmly attached to the bottom, they can't move away from dirty water if it becomes polluted with too many particles they can't eat. As particles it can't use or particles that are too big to eat build up in the sponge, it needs a way to get rid of them. And that's where sponge sneezing comes in.

Unlike a human sneeze, which only takes a second or two and sends particles traveling from 100 to 200 miles per hour, sponges take their time slowly pushing mucus full of waste products out the same openings it uses to draw in water. As the mucus collects on the sponge's outer surface, it becomes a feast for nearby fish because the sponge has concentrated many food particles in the mucus. The fish benefit because it would take a lot more work for them to pick so many particles from the water on their own. And, when fish eat the mucus from the sponge, it clears the openings for the sponge to continue pulling in water, as scientists observed with *Aplysina* and *Chelonaplysilla* sponges last year.



www.ScienceAndTheSea.org

© The University of Texas Marine Science Institute



Seashore Learning Center
Veteran's Day 2023

Seashore learning Center pulled out all the stops to honor our Veteran's last week. The kids made a human American flag and even got a fly over from the Coast Guard helicopter. Military families joined their kids and grandkids for a celebration after the event.



The Seashore 8th grade girls began their season with a win over Bishop Garriga at home, 48-11. photos by Hailey Sachanowicz



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Three Chords and the Truth

By Ronnie Narmour
ronnienarmour@gmail.com

On the local front...



The Chillbillies will play the VFW's Chili Cook Off on Saturday the 25th.

We have finally made it to the end of the year. Thanksgiving is rapidly approaching and Christmas will be here before you know it. Do you know what you want for Christmas? My **Mermaid Gal** has a lot of people to buy gifts for and has all her folks making their "wish lists" on Amazon Prime. It's a good idea. It takes all the guesswork out of it and it saves a lot of time. I'm sure **Santa** is happy about this upgrade, too. We plan to spend Thanksgiving with our island family at **Red's** and head up to Austin on the weekend to see **Tracy's** family and hopefully some live music. **Red's** always has a great potluck spread every year with the buffet dishes taking up an entire shuffle board table plus they'll have all their TVs on to watch the games. And I know **Shorty's** will be open on Thanksgiving and will have **Selfie** playing that night plus **Brad Ethridge** will play the **Gaff**. Also the **VFW** will have their annual **Chili Cook Off** on Saturday the 25th. They'll have a bake sale, 50/50 cash drawing and a raffle plus the **Chillbillies** will be playing. Let's hope the weatherdudes treat us right. We will be putting the **Moon** out on Tuesday the 21st, right before Thanksgiving and I plan to dig out a *blast from the past* that I wrote to introduce myself when I first started with the **Island Moon** back in 2009. I think you'll dig it.

Scattered shots...



Boudreaux and Pousson rocked our socks off... Louisiana style. at Shorty's last Friday.

It was a soggy, cold weekend in Port A. After all the weather was said and done, my little rain gauge said it had rained about four inches. On Friday we had a real treat with the real deal Cajun duo **Boudreaux & Pousson**... aka **Boo** and **Poo**, aka **Ty Southerland** and **Adam Pousson**. I am a HUGE fan of Louisiana music and am delighted to have these guys playing for us. Ty and Adam are from Houma and Jena, Louisiana but now live in Rockport and Orange Grove, respectively. It's looking like **Shorty's** has them hopefully playing every Friday in December. They literally fit in perfectly being they are a duo and use a looper and drum machine to build every song... which fits inside **Shorty's** quite nicely. These guys had us wiggling from down-beat. I could gush on and on about them, but suffice it to say... I love them and I think you will too. On Sunday Funday at **Shorty's** their usual performer; **Coach Jim Dugan** had to attend his daughters' soccer game so they got an old friend, **Ruben Limas** to fill in for him. Ruben used to play Port Aransas a lot in years past but now has a bunch of residency gigs and hardly makes it over to Port A much anymore. We may have to do something about that. It was great having him back. I remember years ago when Ruben was playing **Shorty's** or the **Back Porch** and I got into a "stump the band" deal with him and tried to stomp him on **Bob Dylan** songs but gave up after about 20 of them... I can attest, he knows them all.

DO NOT MISS LIST

Coming this weekend...

And those hits just keep right on coming! Coming this Friday, November 17 **Starlite** and the **Moonbeams** will play **Shorty's**, the **Chainlinks**

are at the **House of Rock**, **Lil' Wayne** will be playing the big room at the **American Bank Center** with **Yella Beezy**, the **Jam Council** will play the **Executive Surf Club** and the **Groove** will play the **Pelican Lounge** on Padre. On Saturday there will be the **Salsa Fest** in Aransas Pass, the **Wayward Gypsies** will play our favorite pirate bar, the **Gaff**, the great folk rockers, **Independent Thieves** will play **Shorty's** and bluesman **John Cortez** will play the **VFW**. Plus on Saturday **Cory Morrow** will play **Brewster Street Ice House**, **Heavy Soul** with **Louie Mandel** of the **Chainlinks** will play Cassidy's Pub, the **Groove** will play **Rockit's**, **Diamond's Edge** is at the **Pelican Lounge**, **Matty Lee** will bring some reggae to the **Exchange** and the **Rasta Cowboy**; **Billy Snipes** will play at **Market Days** in Rockport, **Chris Stapleton** is playing the big room at the **American Bank Center** and there will be a **Salsa Fest** in Aransas Pass. On Sunday the 19th **Shorty's** will have their weekly Funday with **Jim Dugan** and **Ty Dietz** on stage. Also on Sunday the **Exchange** will host their weekly **Jam Night**, **Jules Taylor** will play the **Packery Bar** and **Michael Burtts** is at **Pier 99**. **Billy Snipes** plays every Tuesday at the **VFW** and the **Cleartones** play there every Wednesday. Also note that **Noel Stephenson** has hooked up with the **VFW** to promote some theme parties on Wednesday and they seem to be a rousing success.



Ruben Limas played Shorty's Sunday Funday last weekend.

On the horizon...



John Cortez will play the VFW on Saturday.

On the near horizon watch for **Heavy Soul** at **Shorty's** on the 24th, **Rich Lockhart** at the **VFW** on the 24th, **Larry Joe Taylor** will play the **Third Coast Theater** on the 24th, the **Raul Ayala Band** at the **Pelican Lounge** also on the 24th and **Eclipse** will play **Rockits** on the 24th. On the 25th the **Gaff** will host their WORLD FAMOUS BELT SANDER RACES at 3 PM. The last race got rained out and there are quite a few more **Winter Texans** hitting town, so expect it to be a big one. Also on the 25th the **Jam Band** will play **Shorty's**, the **Chillbillies** will play the **VFW's Chili Cook Off**, the great **Max and Heather Stalling** will play the **Third Coast Theater** and there's a big **Balloon Fest** in New Braunfels. Also on the 25th there's an **AC/DC** tribute band **Back in Black** that will play **Brewster Street Downtown** plus the **Crosstown Expressway** will play the **Exchange**. That ought to hold you for a while. Y'all be safe.

♪♪♪ And, that's the truth ♪♪♪



The Independent Thieves will play Shorty's this Saturday the 18th.



Heavy Soul will play Shorty's on Nov 24th



The Wayward Gypsies will play the Gaff on Saturday.

LIVE MUSIC TONIGHT

Friday.

November 17

Starlite & the Moonbeams @ Shorty's
Lil Wayne, Yella Beezy @ American Bank Center
Tres Hombres @ Legends Fulton
Chainlinks @ House of Rock
Jam Council @ Executive Surf Club
Groove @ Pelican Lounge
Ruben Limas @ Blackbeard's

Saturday.

November 18

Salsa Fest @ Aransas Pass
Wayward Gypsies @ Gaff
Independent Thieves @ Shorty's
John Cortez @ VFW
Cory Morrow @ Brewster Downtown
Heavy Soul @ Cassidy's Irish Pub
Groove @ Rockit's
Diamond's Edge @ Pelican Lounge
Matty Lee @ Exchange
Robert McCoy @ Blackbeard's
Billy Snipes @ Rockport Market Days
Meza Band @ Sugar Shack
Salsa Fest w/ Rich Lockhart, Latin Talk, Haslett Bros @ Downtown Aransas Pass
Chris Stapleton @ American Bank Center
Third Coast Duo @ London Bar

Sunday.

November 19

Ty Dietz, Jim Dugan @ Shorty's
Catfish Blues Jam @ Rialto Theater AP
Jam Night @ The Exchange
Lady Kat & Mattman @ House of Rock
Jennifer Gayle Bradley @ Blackbeard's
Jerry Ward @ Pelican Lounge
Michael Burtts @ Pier 99
Jules Taylor @ Packery Bar

Monday.

November 20

Justin & Niki @ Pelican Lounge

Tuesday, November 21

Billy Snipes @ VFW
Open Mic @ Salty Dolphin
Ruben Limas @ Blackbeard's

Wednesday.

November 22

Brad Ethridge Open Mic @ Gaff
Cleartones @ VFW
Dropped Out, Sweet Daddy, Chillkiller @ House of Rock
Ruben Limas @ Blackbeard's
Raul Ayala @ Rock Bottom
Eddie Alaniz @ Pelican Lounge
Billy Snipes @ Doc's
Michael Burtts @ Pompanos

THANKSGIVING.

November 23

Selfie @ Shorty's
Brad Ethridge @ Gaff
Michael Burtts @ Rock Bottom
Ruben Limas @ Island Italian

Friday.

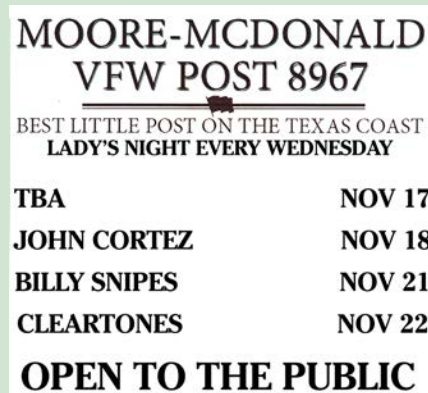
November 24

Heavy Soul @ Shorty's
Rich Lockhart @ VFW
Larry Joe Taylor @ 3rd Coast Theater
Raul Ayala @ Pelican Lounge
Eclipse @ Rockit's
Michael Burtts @ Brewster Soutside
Mike O'Neil @ Exchange
Ruben Limas @ Blackbeard's

Saturday.

November 25

CHILI COOK-OFF @ VFW
BELT SANDER RACES 3 PM @ Gaff
Jam Band @ Shorty's
Chillbillies @ VFW
Max & Heather Stalling @ 3rd Coast Theater
Back in Black- AC/DC Tribute @ Brewster Downtown
Fredericksburg Balloon Festival



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