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Three Chords and the Truth B6

Issue 1115

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August 28, 2025

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Aerial maneuvers by Steve Coons

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By Dale Rankin

Take a deep breath everybody we are but a week away from the sweet spot of the Island calendar as the tourists head OTB, the weather starts to cool, and the water along gulf beaches remains clear and warm. Think of normal October weather in September this year as everything seems to be happening early. We take a look back in this issue eight years ago when Hurricane Harvey came calling even as we enter the Hurricane Danger Zone *Around The Island* when storms often find us.

A side note...

We have had several inquiries this week regarding the use of the ubiquitous round, blue Padre Isles window stickers and whether they will get residents back onto The Island after a storm. While they may not hurt, that is not their intention. Since a revamping of the stickers by the PIPOA a few years ago the blue stickers are basically vanity pieces. Once upon a time they were used to park at Island boat ramps but that is no longer the case.



State Highway 361

The recent death of a 21 year-old woman on State Highway 361 between Padre Island and Port Aransas has once again raised the question of when that roadway will be widened. The Texas Department of Transportation held a public input meeting on the project about two years ago and since that time an environmental study has been underway in anticipation of future work. The project was delayed for more than a decade due to a federal determination regarding regulated wetlands along the roadway. According to information released at the TxDOT hearing those issues

Around cont. on A3

A stop sign for the new Commodores Bridge?

Time for Islanders to be heard from

By Dale Rankin

Discussions are currently underway to determine if a stop sign will be placed on the new water exchange bridge on Commodores Drive which is nearing completion and already in use.

Stop signs were placed on the detour around the work site during early stages of construction, however, those have since been removed as traffic began flowing in both directions over the bridge in recent weeks. Calls to Corpus

Commodores cont. on A3



The Area in Question. Aerial by Augs

Padre Island to get new U.S. House Representative

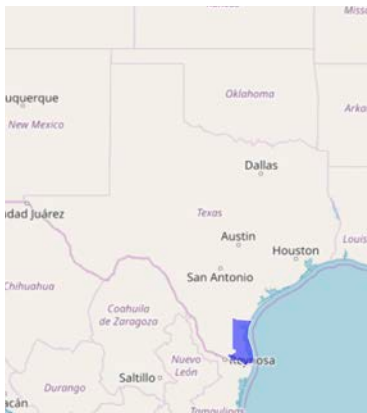
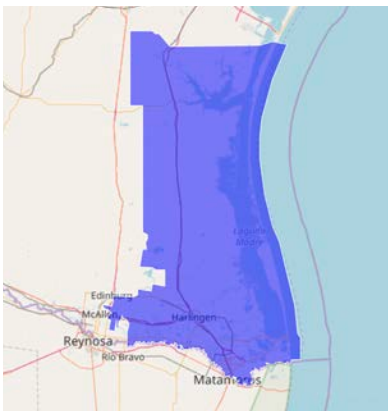
New district maps places most of Corpus Christi in Rio Grande Valley District

By Dale Rankin

The new map for Texas seats is the United States Congress passed by the Texas congress this week means that Padre Island and most of Corpus Christi will have a new representative in the United States House of Representatives.

Padre Island and Port Aransas are currently included in House

District cont. on page A3



New District 34 Area

Ruby-throated Hummingbird Fall Migration

By Celeste Silling

Here at Gulf Coast Bird Observatory, we are getting ready for our annual Xtreme Hummingbird Xtravaganza on September 13th and 20th. The fall Ruby-throated Hummingbird migration has already begun, so we've been seeing them zipping all around the property, from one flower to another. We are fortunate to be located in the middle of their migration pathway, so there can be



Ruby-throated Hummingbirds are drawn towards tubular flowers with nectar.
By Michael Gray

hundreds of them on our grounds at once!

The Ruby-throated Hummingbird migration is truly impressive. These tiny birds start their fall migration in August and continue through October. They breed as far north as central Canada, but the majority of them spend the winter in Mexico and Central

Nature Notes cont. on page A5

A little Island history

8 Years ago this week Hurricane Harvey arrived



Power lines down on 361 going to Port Aransas



Island in the Son Church

Harvey cont. on A4

Medical Minute

30% Diabetes in Senior Citizens: No Way! High Fructose corn syrup

By Dr. Mario Martinez

Many of us were young adults in the 1970's and 1980's. I was born in 1960, and I don't remember anyone that I knew that was a diabetic back then. The first time I found out that a family member was a diabetic, I was about 30 years old. My how things have changed.

I turned 65 years old this year, and right after my birthday I found out that a younger friend of mine passed away. He had been a long-term uncontrolled diabetic. This got me thinking more about diabetes than I usually do. I started wondering about the dramatic increase in the prevalence (total number of cases) of diabetes these days. How was it that there were so few diabetics when we were young and now there are so many? What changed? This is what started me to do some research on the issue.

Type 2 diabetes

Type 2 diabetes is caused by obesity and insulin resistance. There is also a very strong hereditary component to type 2 diabetes. Type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune disorder in which antibodies begin to destroy the beta islet cells in the pancreas that produce insulin. It is possible to avoid becoming a type 2 diabetic but the onset of type 1 diabetes cannot be prevented at this time.

As I mentioned, when I was a kid nobody I knew was a diabetic. Morbid obesity was also very uncommon.

Dr Mario cont. on page B2

Paddle for Parkinson's this Saturday, August 30

This Saturday, August 30, marks the 13th year for Paddle for Parkinson's at Billish Park.

The event begins a 9 a.m. with a 2.5 mile kayak/stand-up paddle board race through Island canals followed by BBQ and the award ceremony. There will be parade marshals around the route but be careful if you are out boating.



Last years Paddle for Parkinson's



Mermaid, Pirate, Jason & Metra in San Pedro, Belize. Exploring the 2nd largest Barrier Reef in the world.



Islanders Danny and Theresa Thompson visiting Grandsons in Soria Spain, met up with former exchange student at Flour Bluff High Mario, who is from Madrid.



Hummingbirds have excellent eyesight, seeing ultraviolet light, and a great memory for the locations of flowers that will refill with nectar

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“Wind in the Sails” at TAMUCC

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Performing Arts Center and Griffyn.Co Productions are proud to present Ullberg: Wind in the Sails, a cinematic tribute to the life and legacy of world-renowned sculptor and Corpus Christi resident, Kent Ullberg. The event will take place on Friday, September 12, 2025, from 6:00 to 9:30 PM at the H-E-B Performance Hall at the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Performing Arts Center. This special evening will feature Kent Ullberg in attendance, along with Dr. Guy Harvey, internationally recognized marine wildlife artist and conservationist. Their presence will offer guests a unique opportunity to celebrate the intersection of art, nature, and community with two legendary figures whose work has inspired generations. The event celebrates Kent Ullberg's impact on the Corpus Christi community and beyond. Proceeds support the PBS broadcast edit of the film, which is



Ullberg billfish sculpture

set to air in May 2026 as the season finale of the Made in Texas series.

“We’re thrilled to bring this story home,” said Matthew Thornton, TAMU-CC alum and Director of the film.

“Kent Ullberg’s work has shaped the cultural landscape of Corpus Christi and beyond. This event is a chance to honor that legacy and invite the community to be part of the film’s next chapter.”

Tickets available starting August 12th at <https://www.tamucc.edu/performing-arts-center/events/localevents.php>



Padre Isles County Club under construction in the 1970s

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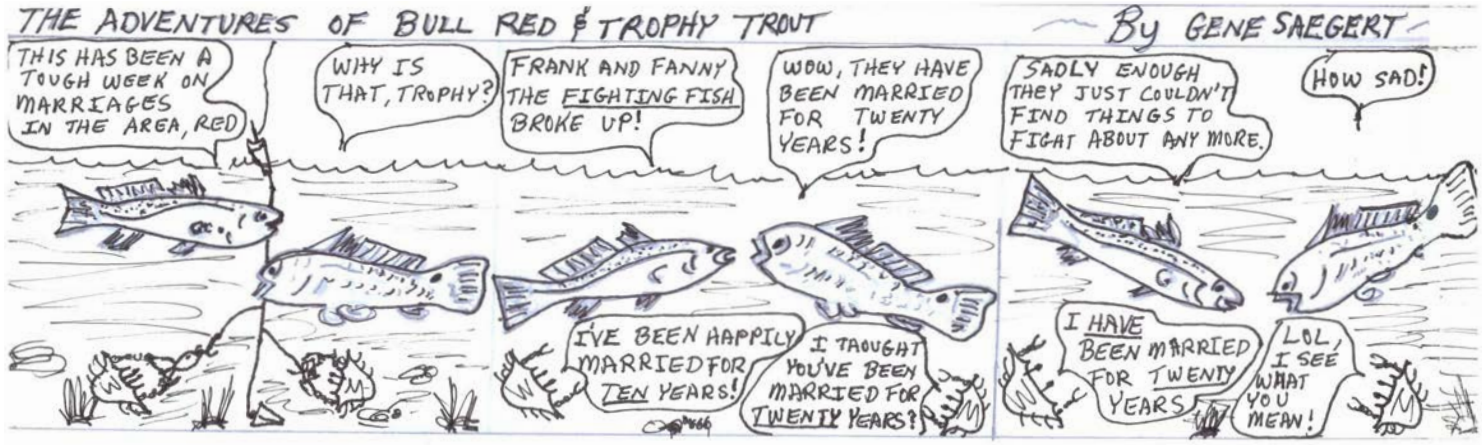
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Commodores cont. from A1

Christi City Hall regarding the subject were not returned by press time, sources say no decision has been reached as discussions are ongoing.

The design drawings for the \$9.2 million bridge did not address signage at the site once construction is complete. The design of the bridge is based on a standard type from the Texas Department of Transportation which is expected to be consulted, however, under current plans a final decision will be made by the Corpus Christi City Council. The state rules indicate a warning sign will be needed at the apex of the bridge warning of a stop sign ahead if a stop sign is installed since the elevation of the bridge prevents drivers entering from seeing traffic stopped on the other side. As of this writing mid-week no decision has been announced by city officials, meaning now is the time for Islanders with an opinion on the subject to speak out.

Completion of the bridge is expected by late-November and decision on signage is likely in that timeframe. The Island Strategic Action Committee may take up the issue in their meeting scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, September 2, at the Wyndham Hotel on Padre Island.

Around cont. from A1

have largely been addressed. State Representative Todd Hunter said recently that new lighting along the roadway has been approved and current plans from TxDOT call for the work to widen the road to begin in 2030. Included in the deliberation on the project is how to improve the stretch from Packery Channel to SPID and whether to widen the bridges over water passes. According to state numbers there have been over 900 crashes between Packery Channel and Port Aransas since 2015 with 15 of those resulting in deaths.

Belt sander racing is breaking out

The Gaff in Port Aransas will kick off the new belt sander racing season this Saturday with the First Annual Invitational Championship Race. See details in Ronnie’s column this week where he will be piloting the Moon Monkey. Expect a packed house and some rip-roaring belt sander action!

That’s all for now everybody, we’ll see you at the grocery store on Thursday and then we’ll see you on the other side, say hello if you see us *Around The Island*.



Racers Preparing on the track at The Gaff



District cont. from A1

District 27 represented by Michael Cloud (R), Victoria. The new district lines produced after two special sessions in Austin leaves Port Aransas, the Port of Corpus Christi, and sections of the west side of Corpus Christi in District 27, however, Padre Island and the majority of the city’s 371,863 population, according to the 2020 Census, will be included in the newly redrawn District 34 which stretches from Nueces County through Kleberg, Willacy, Kenedy, and Cameron counties. The district will have a population of approximately 775,000 with almost half residing in the Corpus Christi area.

“If we don’t get behind a candidate from Corpus Christi we are going to get left behind,” longtime Corpus Christi political consultant Steve Ray said this week. “And we have some crucial issues that are coming up in this district such as preserving jobs at the Corpus Christi Army Depot.”

Ray said District 34 is made up of 53% Republican voters. As of this week no

candidates from the Corpus Christi area have announced for the seat but several are said to be considering making the race, including Kleberg County District Judge Rudy Madrid (R) Kingsville.

So far three candidates have announced for the race, current District 34 representative Vicente Gonzales, a Rio Grande Valley Democrat with longtime Corpus Christi ties, and Democrat and former U.S. Rep. Mayra Flores, also from the Rio Grande Valley, who Gonzales previously defeated when the two faced off in 2022 when Flores was the incumbent, having been elected during a special election just a few months prior who was defeated by Gonzalez by 8.5 percentage points.

Gonzalez is currently in his first term as the representative for District 34, after serving three terms as the representative for neighboring District 15 before Texas lawmakers redrew him into the 34th district during state redistricting, making District 15 more competitive. The election for the seat is set for November, 2026.



Vicente Gonzalez and Mayra Flores



Eric Ozolins of Padre Island caught, satellite tagged, and released this over 12 foot Tiger shark recently. Photos courtesy of Ocean Epics.

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Island Construction had some walls removed.



Boats lined the streets and parking lots in Port Aransas.



Island Italian was closed for more than a year after Harvey.



Stuff I Heard on the Island

By Dale Rankin

For some of us deciding whether to ride out Hurricane Harvey or hightail it OTB was a close thing. At first we were going to stay because we had a trio of house pets after inheriting my mother's nervous Shih Tzu, a balky fifteen year-old cat who was set in her routine, and Lizzy who began shaking uncontrollably at the first clap of thunder. The night before the storm my friend Jerry said by this time tomorrow we will have eighty-mile per hour sustained winds and rain for about six to eight hours. As a life-long dodger of storms my rule of thumb has always been to stay put for "gusts up to 100 mph" and leave if the duration remains at 100 mph for more than a few hours, not so much because of the wind itself but I have seen firsthand how 100 mph wind blowing for three hours can turn ordinance objects into weaponized flying projectiles. While Harvey turned out to last longer than just a few hours the idea of eight hours in the turbulence was enough for us to pack up the cast and roll out.

We watched the storm coverage from San Antonio but there was very little video from Port Aransas once the storm made landfall. By Saturday night we were back on Padre Island and tried to drive into Port Aransas only to be turned back by police. On our return we found that our house on Padre had little damage but I had thrown dead locks on the front door from the inside and had neglected to disengage the garage doors and with no power the only way to get in our house was to break out the glass in a rear window; the only Harvey damage we got and a reminder that you have to be tough if you are going to be stupid. From the water-line it was clear that we had about six feet of water in our canal; three feet less than our home's elevation. There was damage on Padre Island primarily to structures that faced due west since we were on the back-side of the storm and our wind and water was outbound.

On to Port A...

As we crossed Packery Channel headed north there was seagrass scattered everywhere. The rushing outbound water had overflowed SH 361 just past Packery Channel and washed out the main waterline leading to Port Aransas but all in all the damage was light through Fish Pass, which looked like it had been cut through. As we crossed Fish Pass and moved north the line of grass caught on fences continued to rise and the telephone poles began leaning over the road until finally their crossbeams came to rest in the southbound lane of the highway. As we reached Fire Station #16 the grass line on the fences was six feet high indicating the depth of the water during the storm and the grass on either side of the road looked like it had been run over with an earthmover. Then just a few miles south of Port Aransas everything changed. You could see exactly where the edge of the eyewall passed. As we rolled into Port Aransas most every structure showed damage and as we got into town boats were everywhere on the street. Many of them, while covered in sea grass, were undamaged as they simply floated up in the tide and rode it out. But it was clear from the start that Port Aransas as we had known it before was no more. Friends who lived in Port Aransas made their way in by boat that night and most found their homes either gone or uninhabitable and by the time we drove in Sunday morning we had a list of twenty-two houses that friends wanted us to check on. We ended up taking photos that we couldn't text because there was no cell service but in the end it didn't matter because we simply called and gave them the news that there was no reason to rush back, they were going to need trailers to live in.

The old homes west of Alister Street that were facing west were mostly teardowns. This was where many of our friends had lived and we had the unpleasant task of telling them they were now homeless. The same with our friends in Cline's Landing, in spite of being four floors up they were facing west and that was all it took. The marina was a mess and the buildings along its shore were piles of rubble. Where trailer parks had stood there were now only slabs. My experience covering storms had taught me to get all the photos I could as soon as I got on site because once cleanup crews began arriving the landscape would change very quickly and that is what happened in Port Aransas. Two days after the storm the Texas State Troopers had arrived and most of the

streets were clear and each night, just like in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, the work crews would line up to leave only to return the next morning. This went on for months. Somewhere at the Home Office a decision was made to allow in the cleanup crews but not the property owners which meant anything that could be picked up was fair game and there is a fine line between cleanup work and looting. If the lawn mower in the street won't start, well, that's cleanup, but if it does is that looting? Our friend Janet Planet was in the process of cleaning up Alister Street in front of the liquor store when she was interviewed by a local television crew. "If it was in the street it's not looting," she said, and while technically correct when you are pushing a shopping cart full of top-shelf booze in front of a television camera the optics are not in your favor.

The stories

In the days after the storm the stores of those who rode it out began to come out. The fury of Harvey lasted more than twelve hours with much of that at night. Locals climbed into attics and prepared to cut their way out through roofs, refrigerators and couches bounced off of ceilings inside homes as they floated about, a few hardy souls walked across town in the eyewall only to be caught in the open when the storm resumed. Ironically while the governor had issued a mandatory evacuation notice for San Patricio County he did not issue one for Nueces County which includes Port Aransas, not that it would have mattered since most old salts would have stayed anyway, but a good many left after the storm vowing never to return. The outbound water was dammed up behind the dunes and I found a water mark on a house on Avenue G that was eleven feet up. Dunes stop water both ways.

The aftermath

In the weeks after the storm distribution centers were set up for food, clothing, water, and tools and Port Aransas began to come back to life. Now, eight years out Port Aransas is a different place than it was before Harvey. It has been said that hurricanes are God's way of expedited urban renewal and I think that applies to Port Aransas after Harvey. A look around town now finds that where older homes that eventually would probably have been torn down anyway have been replaced by new structures lifted in the air on pilings which would have kept them above the water threat in Harvey but I always go back to the admonition that you hide from wind and run from water. There has been a flood of state and federal aid that has made its way to Port Aransas in the years after the storm. One of anomalies of Harvey was that very few FEMA trailers ever made it to Port Aransas. Over 2500 of them made it to Chase Field in Beeville where they sat until they were moved and/or auctioned off in 2022. It later came out that while FEMA delivered them to that location it was up to the state to get them the rest of the way and for that the state had no plan. But in my observation that biggest change has been in the proliferation of short-term rental properties and the effect that has had on permanent residents. Many of the people I knew who live in Port Aransas before Harvey are gone. In many cases their insurance didn't cover the cost of rebuilding to new structural standards and they simply sold their lot and moved away and the structures that took their places are mostly short-term rentals. The Law of Unintended Consequences that results from mixing short-term rentals in residential areas is an increase in property taxes



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Nature Notes

Nature Notes cont. from A1



America. This means that they have to fly as far as 1,000 miles twice a year between their wintering and breeding grounds.

Some will follow the coast around the gulf down to Mexico, but others will take the shorter route straight across! The long flight across the gulf has to be done all at once, since there are no convenient trees for birds to rest on in the ocean. They have been known to rest on ships out in the water, but they can't rely on finding the right ship in the right place. To meet the energy demands of this long journey, Ruby-throats can double their body weight with fat in a matter of days by bulking up on nectar from flowers and feeders and from eating insects.

Our small visitors need a lot of sugar water to prepare for their journey, so I'm sure they appreciate the folks who put out feeders for them. To make the nectar, we recommend dissolving 1 part sugar in 4 parts hot water, then letting it cool before putting it in the feeders. We don't recommend store-bought nectar, as that can often have dyes or preservatives that might not be good for the birds.

Those of us with hummingbird feeders also need to be sure to clean them regularly! In this hot environment, mold and bacteria

can grow quickly inside of the feeders. We recommend cleaning them every few days, being sure to get in all of the nooks and crannies where mold and bacteria can grow. You can use dish soap or other cleaning methods, but always be sure to thoroughly rinse with water afterwards!

Of course, nobody can live off of sugar water alone! Hummingbirds require insects as well. So, if you are trying to attract more hummingbirds to your yard, the best solution is to plant native plants and eliminate pesticides. Native plants are the best hosts for native insects, and some of them can provide nectar too.

If you are interested in enjoying the hummingbird migration and seeing these birds up close, come join us at our Xtreme Hummingbird Xtravaganza on September 13th and 20th at Gulf Coast Bird Observatory headquarters in Lake Jackson! You can watch hummingbird banding and even symbolically adopt a Ruby-throated Hummingbird of your own! There will also be activities for the kids, nature booths with live animals, a plant sale, and much more to enjoy. You can learn more at www.gcbo.org. We hope to see you there!



Dolphin by Steve Coons

Beachcombing Report



By Jace Tunnell

Butterfly Stingrays of Texas



Butterfly stingray on Mustang Island

This week while snorkeling along the jetties, I was treated to a rare sight — three butterfly stingrays gliding gracefully across the sandy bottom. With clear water stretching 20 feet thanks to calm winds and no waves, it was the perfect day to watch these unique rays in their natural habitat.

Butterfly stingrays are one of several stingray species found in the Gulf. In Texas waters, you might also encounter southern stingrays, Atlantic stingrays, cownose rays, and bluntnose stingrays. Unlike the larger eagle or manta rays, butterfly stingrays are relatively small and round with wing-like fins that make them appear to “fly” underwater.

One of the biggest questions people have about stingrays is whether they sting. The answer is yes — they can, but only in defense. A stingray's barb is located on its tail and is used as protection if the animal feels threatened, often when accidentally stepped on. Stings are painful but rarely life-threatening. If someone is stung, the best first aid is to rinse the wound in saltwater (not freshwater), remove any debris with tweezers, and then soak the affected area in water as hot as the person can tolerate. The heat helps neutralize the venom and ease the pain. Of course, serious injuries should be evaluated by a doctor.

Butterfly stingrays typically live about 10 to 12 years in the wild. They usually grow to about two feet across, although some can reach nearly three feet. They feed on clams, crabs, and small fish, using their mouths to suck prey from the sand. Their rounded shape and patterned backs help them blend into the seafloor, making them a challenge to spot unless they move.

Around the world, stingrays are sometimes eaten, with their wings prepared in different dishes. However, in Texas, stingrays aren't commonly targeted by fishermen and are more often appreciated for their role in the ecosystem than on a dinner plate.

Seeing three butterfly stingrays on a single dive was a reminder of the hidden treasures that can be found just offshore. Next time you're near the jetties, keep an eye out — you might spot these graceful “butterflies” of the sea. Jace Tunnell is the Director of Community Engagement for the Harte Research Institute at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. His Beachcombing series appears on YouTube and you can follow Jace at [harteresearch.org](https://www.youtube.com/harteresearch), or Facebook ([facebook.com/harteresearch](https://www.facebook.com/harteresearch)), Instagram ([@harteresearch](https://www.instagram.com/harteresearch)) and X ([@HarteResearch](https://twitter.com/HarteResearch)) (the platform formerly known as Twitter).



Jace Tunnell snorkeling South Packery jetties searching for butterfly stingrays



Butterfly stingray showing short tail and long shape



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Sports

Sports Talk Special to The Island Moon



The Role of Women in 1920s Sports Part 1

By Dotson Lewis

By Dotson Lewis

Dotson’s Note: The 1920s marked a transformative era for women in sports, a time when societal norms began to shift dramatically, allowing female athletes to break through barriers that had long confined them. Thanks to Bill Morgan for the facts and photos contained in this report.

The decade, often referred to as the “Roaring Twenties,” was characterized by significant social changes, including the burgeoning women’s rights movement and the aftermath of World War I, which collectively contributed to a redefinition of femininity and athleticism. As women sought more visibility and representation in various fields, sports became a platform for showcasing their talents and challenging traditional gender roles.

Prominent female athletes emerged during this vibrant period, capturing the public’s imagination and inspiring future generations. Figures such as Mildred “Babe” Didrikson and Gertrude Ederle not only excelled in their respective sports but also became symbols of empowerment and determination. Their achievements transcended the athletic realm, influencing perceptions of women in society and paving the way for future advancements in gender equality.

This exploration of the role of women in 1920s sports reveals a rich tapestry of ambition, resilience, and change. By delving into the historical context, the lives of trailblazing athletes, and the broader implications for gender equality, we can better understand how this dynamic decade set the stage for the evolving narrative of women in sports today.

The 1920s, often referred to as the “Roaring Twenties,” was a transformative decade for women in sports. This era marked significant social changes that influenced women’s roles in various aspects of society, including athletics. The historical context surrounding women’s participation in sports during this period is crucial for understanding the broader implications of gender roles and the evolution of sports culture in the United States and beyond.

The 1920s was a decade characterized by a wave of social reform and the burgeoning women’s rights movement. The culmination of decades of activism led to the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment in 1920, granting women the right to vote. This political empowerment significantly influenced women’s confidence and aspirations, allowing them to pursue interests beyond traditional domestic roles. With newfound agency, many women began to challenge societal norms, including those related to physical activity and sports.

As women increasingly participated in the workforce and sought independence, they began to embrace sports as a means of self-expression and liberation. The rise of the flapper culture—a symbol of the modern woman—encouraged women to adopt more active lifestyles. This culture promoted not only a new fashion sense, with shorter hemlines and looser clothing, but also a shift in attitudes towards women engaging in sports previously dominated by men.

Women’s sports began to gain visibility and legitimacy during this time. Schools and colleges started to offer more athletic programs for women, and female athletes began to compete in organized events. The formation of women’s leagues and associations further solidified the presence of women in the sporting world. Despite these advances, female athletes faced numerous challenges, including societal skepticism and limited opportunities compared to their male counterparts. Nonetheless, the 1920s laid the groundwork for greater recognition of women in sports.

The impact of World War I was profound, reshaping societal norms and the roles of women, including in the realm of sports. During the war, many women stepped into roles traditionally held by men, as they took on jobs in factories, farms, and other industries to support the war effort. This shift not only changed perceptions of women’s capabilities but also sparked a growing interest in physical fitness among women. The notion of health and physicality gained traction as women recognized the strength and resilience they had developed during this period of societal upheaval.

After the war, returning soldiers found a changed landscape. Women were no longer content to return solely to domestic life. They sought to maintain the independence they had gained, which translated into increased participation in sports. The war had served as a catalyst for women’s athletic participation, allowing them to prove their physical prowess and challenge preconceived notions of femininity.

Organizations such as the Women’s Amateur Athletic Association (WAAA), founded in 1921, emerged as a direct response to the growing demand for women’s sports. This organization aimed to promote and regulate women’s athletics, leading to more organized competitions and championships. The WAAA played a crucial role in advancing women’s sports and advocating for equal opportunities in athletic events.

Moreover, the war led to a cultural shift that celebrated female athletes as symbols of modernity and progress. Women like Helen Wills, who became a tennis sensation after the war, exemplified this new ideal. Her success on the court challenged traditional gender roles and inspired many young women to pursue sports. The legacy of female athletes who emerged during and after World War I was instrumental in the evolution of women’s sports in the 1920s.

Several key figures and events in the 1920s played a significant role in shaping the landscape of women’s sports. The emergence of female athletes as public figures helped to further break down barriers and challenge societal norms. Figures such as Mildred “Babe” Didrikson and Gertrude Ederle made headlines not only for their athletic accomplishments but also for their defiance of traditional gender roles.

Mildred Didrikson, an exceptional athlete, excelled in multiple sports, including track and field and golf. Her performance at the 1932 Olympics, where she won two gold medals and one silver, made her a national sensation. Didrikson’s success helped to elevate women’s sports in mainstream culture and paved the way for future generations of female athletes.

Gertrude Ederle, another notable figure, made history in 1926 by becoming the first woman to swim across the English Channel. Ederle’s achievement captured the public’s imagination and demonstrated the capabilities of women in endurance sports. Her accomplishment not only inspired other women to pursue athletics but also challenged the notion that women were physically incapable of competing in demanding sports.

These athletes and their achievements were emblematic of the broader societal changes occurring in the 1920s. Women began to claim their space in the sports arena, and their successes were celebrated in the media, further promoting the idea of women as athletes. The 1920s thus became a pivotal decade for the evolution of women’s sports, setting the stage for greater acceptance and recognition in the years to come.

To be continued...

The Art of Island Life



By Melissa Mitchell

More Than a Trend It’s a Feeling

Every year, designers, decorators, and creatives alike turn their attention to Pantone’s Color of the Year. It’s more than just a forecast—it’s a reflection of what we crave collectively. In 2025, that color is *Mocha Mousse*, a rich, velvety shade that feels as comforting as it sounds. Though we’re already halfway through the year, heading into the fall season always makes me pause and revisit the colors that have shaped the months behind us—and how they might evolve as the light changes and our homes shift into cooler-weather mode. *Mocha Mousse* still feels fresh, relevant, and full of possibility. As a certified interior decorator and working artist, I find that color isn’t just a backdrop—it’s a powerful tool for creating emotion, memory, and atmosphere. And *Mocha Mousse* hits a sweet spot: it’s earthy without being heavy, warm without being overwhelming. It invites you in. It says, *exhale... you’re home*. It’s also my favorite color for grounding my own home. I’ve used it to create a space that feels calm yet connected—a place where the energy settles the moment you walk through the door.



A Peek Inside My Home

How to Use It: Coastal Comfort Meets Quiet Sophistication

A warm, brown tone just naturally belongs in coastal décor. When paired with soft whites, driftwood tones, or even a whisper of sea glass blue, *Mocha Mousse* becomes the grounding element. It adds depth without weight, anchoring a room in coziness. As an accent color, the magic is in placement and proportion. Try it in small doses—a cluster of warm-toned picture frames, a woven throw, a ceramic vase on your entry table. Or even go bold with cabinetry if you’re feeling brave. For a bigger statement, an accent wall or an upholstered reading chair in this shade can shift the whole feel of a space. In artwork, *Mocha Mousse* brings out the richness in sandy landscapes, sepia sketches, and mixed media pieces that tell a layered story. At the gallery, I’ve noticed artists intuitively leaning into this color family—warm neutrals with emotional resonance. It doesn’t shout. It listens.

What Color Says Without Words

Color has always been an unsung language of creativity. It affects how we feel in a space, how we view art, and even how we relate to others. After

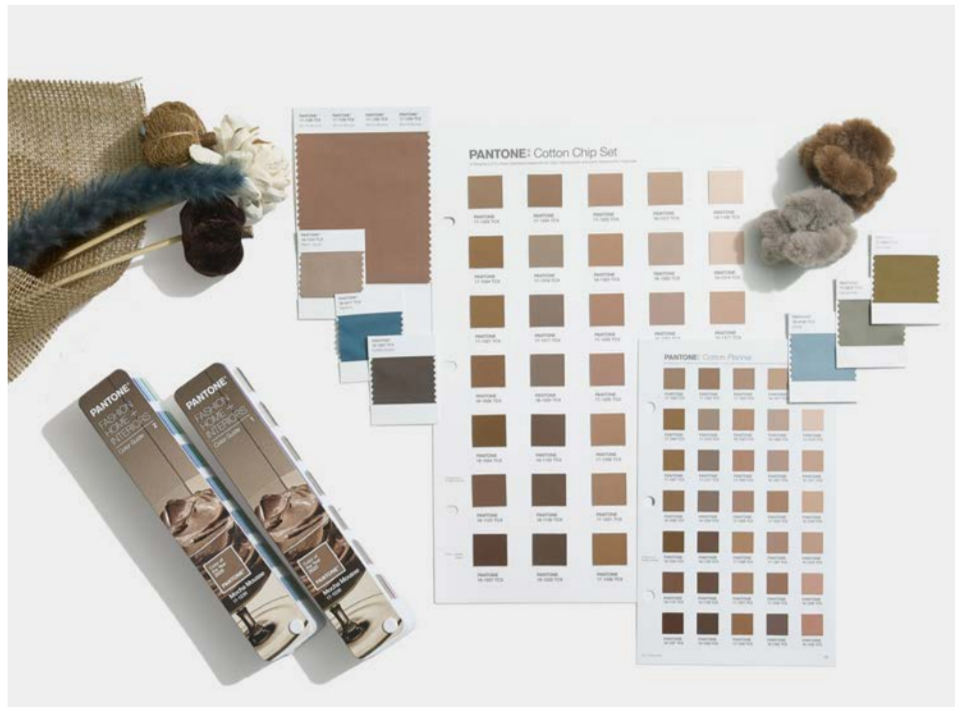
years of bolder, high-energy hues, *Mocha Mousse* feels like a collective exhale. It reflects our desire for groundedness, warmth, and meaningful connection—qualities many of us are craving more than ever. It’s also a reminder that creativity doesn’t have to be loud to be powerful. Sometimes the quietest palette can say the most. **From Warmth to Waves: Looking Ahead** If *Mocha Mousse* is 2025’s cozy exhale, then many color trend forecasters believe the deep, refreshing breath that follows will be *Transformative Teal*. While Pantone won’t announce their official 2026 Color of the Year until December, respected industry authorities WGSN and Coloro have both named this rich blue-green as their choice. It’s easy to see why. This tone feels alive in a way only coastal colors can. It’s a color that works beautifully in Island living—calming yet vibrant, grounded yet full of movement. In decorating, it pairs naturally with shell white, weathered driftwood, and the sandy warmth of *Mocha Mousse*, creating a palette that feels both sophisticated and effortless. Bring it in through accent pillows or even a painted front door that welcomes you home with a hint of sea breeze. Powder rooms are a place that always crave a splash of playful charm. In artwork, *Transformative Teal* adds depth to ocean scenes, contrast to coastal botanicals, and a luminous quality to abstract pieces. And for those of us who paint, it’s a dream color—full of shadow and light, able to hold stillness and energy in the same stroke. This combination—*Mocha Mousse* and *Transformative Teal*—is the perfect balance for Island living: earth and ocean, warmth and coolness, the comfort of home and the pull of open water.

Inspiration All Around

Looking for inspiration? Walk the dunes. Watch the light shift between sand and sea under a cloudy sky. Notice the weathered texture of driftwood, the soft markings on a shell. If you’re curious how this trend is showing up in art and interiors, stop by the gallery. You’ll see it in subtle tones and bold contrasts, in pieces that invite pause and offer peace. Because the color of the year isn’t just something to follow—it’s something to feel. **The Art of Island Life** will return next week with more stories and creative inspiration from our coastal community. Have a story to share or an upcoming event? Reach out to me at melissa@padreislandartgallery.com.



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Pantone’s Mocha Mousse Chip Set

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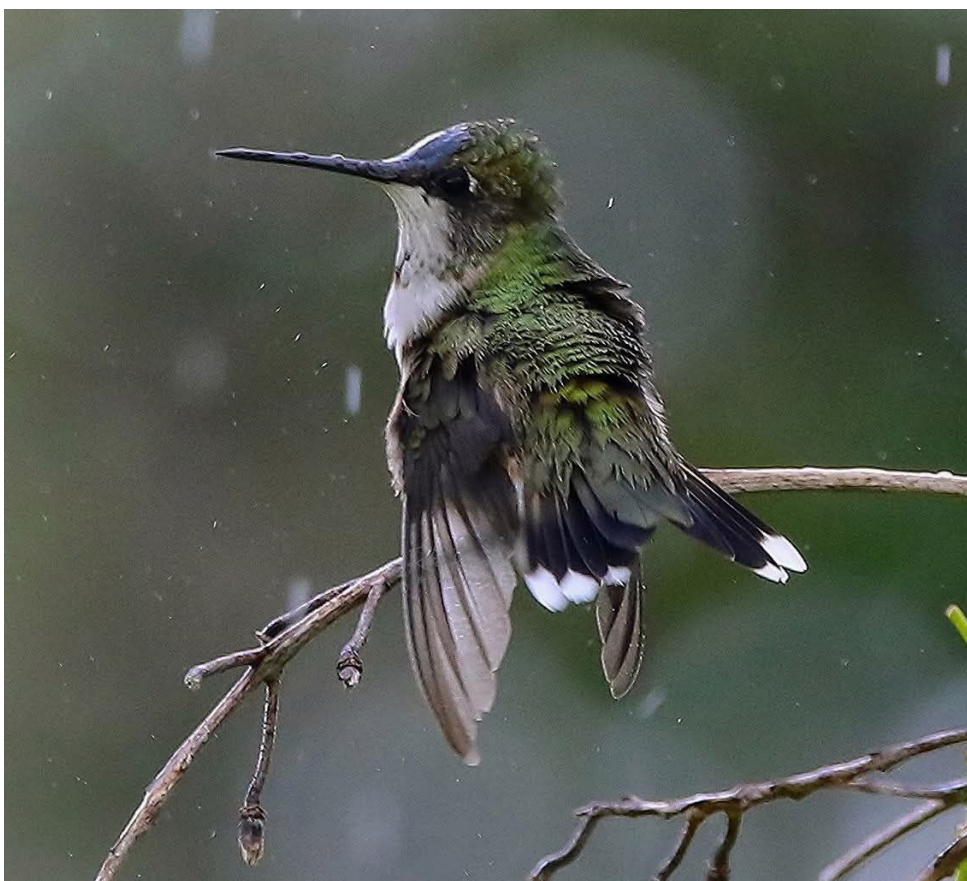
Here are just a few of the Texas Women Anglers participating boats. TWAT 2025 OVERALL WINNER & Winner of the ML Walker Perpetual Trophy.... SEA SEÑORA!!! With 1154 points — \$5000 release & \$1000 overall cash pot totaling \$81,830 & the captain and mate pots - with a total purse of \$128,527 of winnings. OUR TWAT LEGACY AWARD Was awarded to Cecilia Fox & Earlyn Tompkins for starting the tournament in 1984! TOP WOMAN ANGLER In Honor of Barbara Furlow Was awarded to Jordan Soechting on the Fin Stalker with a total of 610 Points, with her catches recorded at 10:50 am & 2:05 PM Photos By Maggie Evans



The "Doctors Orders" was removed this week.



Damien Carvalho with a big beautiful 80 lb. Yellow fin tuna. Great fight at 175 miles out



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15438 Seamount Cay #104 2/2 @ 1,050 sq ft. 3rd floor condo, Remodeled with vinyl flooring, neutral palette, stainless steel appliances. Across the street from park and close to boat ramp **\$199,000** Call **Charlie Knoll** 361-443-2499



15305 Cartagena Ct Great waterfront lot located on NPI! Around the corner from multiple boat ramps, restaurants and the beach. Bonus waterfront view from front of property also! **\$289,000** Call **Charlie Knoll** 361-443-2499



14721 Whitecap Blvd #136 This first floor condo 1/1 is just steps away from the beach! New patio door, windows, appliances, and hot water heater. Also on site Pool, gym, car washing area! **\$249,500** Call **Charlie Knoll** 361-443-2499



13825 Captains Row Beautiful custom-built 4/3.5/2 home by James Mazoch @ 3,005 sq ft. Gated community. Heated pool, 2 boat lifts, fish cleaning station & so much more! **\$1,250,000** Call **Charlie Knoll** 361-443-2499



15137 Kokomo Dr Escape to the beach! Fully furnished 2 bedroom, 1 bath coastal townhome located in the Aruba Bay Resort. **\$320,000** Call **Madeline Casey** 361-443-0687



14300 SPID #101 2-Story 2BR/2BTH canal waterfront condo w/2 living spaces. Located in the heart of NPI near it all! Boat slips, fitness center, indoor & outdoor pool. **\$124,900** Call **Randy Corpuz** 361-765-9914



15010 Leeward Dr #602 1/1 @ 620 sq ft. First floor, fully furnished unit with a 3 min walk to beach. New bathroom sink, tub, kitchen faucets, water heater, & sofa bed mattress. **\$180,000** Call **Randy Corpuz** 361-765-9914



13918 Eaglesnest Bay Dr Unobstructed water view! 3/2/2 @ 1,547 sf perfect starter or vacation home. Sunroom, open floor plan, plantation shutters & granite countertops. Room for pool. **\$357,000** Call **Pam Morgan** 361-215-8116



2525 Luzius Dr. One owner 3/2/2 Flour Bluff home. 1,718 sq. ft. Granite counters throughout, stainless steel appliances, open living, split bedrooms. Pool sized backyard. **\$329,900** Call **Charlie Knoll** 361-443-2499



15641 Three Fathoms Bank Custom 4-sided brick 4/2.5/2 w/POOL & bonus room! Beautifully landscaped backyard, extra concrete for added parking, Saltillo tile, SS appliances, granite counters **\$495,000** Call **Randy Corpuz** 361-765-9914



14911 Packery View Loop 2/3 @ 1,168 sq ft. Looking for that GREAT beach getaway? Don't miss out on this priced to sell townhome. Sleeps 10+, poolside, short walk to the beach! **\$327,000** Call **Tinker Boos** 361-563-6641



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15402 Dyna New design by Steve's Homes 4/3/2 plus study on a large corner lot with room for a pool for a pool. **\$585,000** Call **Cindy Molnar** 361-549-5557 for a preview!



14904 Village Beach Dr. Village by the Beach 1BR/1BTH selling fully furnished, turnkey, and ready to rent or use. Open concept with a charming coastal vibe. Heated pool. 5min walk to the beach. **\$279,900** Call **Randy Corpuz** 361-765-9914



15306 Yardarm Ct 3/2/2 @ 1,486 sq ft. Beautiful waterfront home with east facing backyard for great afternoon shade. Covered boat lift. **\$519,995** Call **Charlie Knoll** 361-443-2499



14428 Compass St. Unit # 108 Cozy 1 Bed, 1 Bath condo with a fantastic waterfront location. Tropical pool that can be viewed by patio. Unit is being sold furnished and move-in ready! **\$195,000** Call **Charlie Knoll** 361-443-2499



13941 Flintlock New by Steve's Homes 4/3/2 with inground pool, open floor plan, and ready for move in! **\$610,000** Call **Cindy Molnar** 361-549-5557 for a preview!



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14428 Compass #108
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\$1,100 / month

14861 SPID # 111
3/2.5/1/furnished
\$2,200 / month



13554 Bullion Ct Beautifully renovated 3/2/2 waterfront property! Remodeled kitchen & bathrooms, new flooring & fresh interior paint. Expansive deck rebuilt in 2023, including new boat lift. **\$614,900** Call **Kim Mogford** 361-434-8522



14905 Packery View Loop Priced to sell! 3/2 @ 1,168 sq ft. Comes completely furnished w/coastal décor as well as washer and dryer. Walk to beach! Sleeps 10+ **\$327,000** Call **Tinker Boos** 361-563-6641



14428 Compass St. Unit # 204 1BR/1BTH waterfront condo at the popular Mystic Harbor. Selling fully furnished and is equipped with all new hurricane rated windows/doors. First come first serve boat slip access **\$189,000** Call **Randy Corpuz**



14721 Whitecap Blvd #281 Cheapest fully furnished 1/1 condo at Beach Club priced at **\$210,000**. 2nd floor condo is turnkey ready to rent or use as a vacation getaway! AC Condenser May 2024. Call **Randy Corpuz** 361-765-9914



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Island Outdoors



By Jay Gardner

On the Rocks

The Ides of Summer

We finally have hit the crescendo of summer, as the atmosphere becomes slightly unstable and cool fronts are starting to dip this way south. Many won't make it, but they will start getting closer. The chicharras (cicadas) are in full blast, the mullet are starting to head out of the jetties, and folks are starting to gear up for the upcoming dove hunting season where we are sure to get some rain to ruin it. This is where living in south Texas really hits its stride when you can hunt, fish, go surfing, and a myriad of other activities as the tourist season winds down. Life is great!

This week I have a really great conspiracy theory for you loyal readers. The news kind of flew under the radar, and it was the discussion that we had with Charlie Zahn on the Island Moon radio show a couple of weeks ago that made the lightbulb come on in my head. We were talking about the desal plant that is slated to go into Harbor Island, and he mentioned that getting power to the proposed plant would be an issue. We all know that the power grid down this way can be a bit squirrely at times, however there are other areas experiencing reliable power needs as well, and the City of San Antonio is no different. Charlie also mentioned that the city of San Antonio has indicated interest in purchasing future water rights from the Harbor Island desal plant already.

The City of San Antonio, through its subsidiary, CPS Energy, quietly purchased the Barney Davis Power Plant in Flour Bluff, and the Nueces Bay/Navigation Blvd Power Plant down in the Port. These two plants operate from natural gas, and the way that they are set up is ingenious. The Barney Davis is supplied its natural gas directly from pipelines that come in from offshore. You see those rigs offshore that are just south of Bob Hall? Yeah, at least one of those production lines goes through the Island, across the Laguna, and straight to the Barney Davis. Pretty smart; indeed, the power plant is "mainlined." You can find those lines on the Texas General Land Office Lease Mapper online.

Some additional features about the Barney Davis is that the facility is saltwater cooled. Water is taken from an intake channel from the Laguna, runs through the cooling towers, and is then discharged into their cooling reservoir, which is baffled and slowed down to get the water back down to ambient temperature, where it is then discharged into Oso Bay. It mixes with the storm water coming from upstream from as far away as Robstown, as well as the effluent water from the Greenwood treatment plant. This flows out of Oso Bay into Corpus Christi Bay. Intake and outflow permits already in hand with the TCEQ and other agencies.

The Barney Davis Cooling Reservoir also just so happens to be on the Texas Water Development Board's (TWDB) website as a surface water reservoir. Why would a privately owned asset be on their website and listed the way it is? The TWDB, if you haven't been paying attention, is the agency that a lot of the funding for desal is passed through.

I think you loyal readers are starting to put the pieces together; the city of San Antonio now owns the plants that make the power, intake and outflow permits, and a surface water reservoir eligible for TWDB funding. It's not too far of a hop or skip to get to jump to get to desal. In addition, there is a brand new 32" water line that was run from the O.N. Stevens to the new water towers on the south side, which goes to the new water tower on Flour Bluff Drive. The system fills the Flour Bluff tower, and then goes out to the Islands' water infrastructure, then on to Port Aransas. The city of San Antonio could easily build a desal unit on the Barney Davis and potentially pump the brine discharge in one of the old lines back offshore for disposal. Then, they would only have to get a 32" line to the corner of Yorktown and Flour Bluff Drive and shunt off the flowing coming in and they could be the water suppliers for Flour Bluff, the Island, and Port A. That would reduce the flow coming from the O.N. Stevens.

Yes, I know that's kind of a wild conspiracy theory folks, but the city of San Antonio could potentially leapfrog the city of Corpus Christi. Our late mentor Dr. Tunnell even did a brief study contemplating the Barney Davis for a desal unit back in the day, as have other consultants over time. Maybe San Antonio has been reading over our shoulder.

Sorry for the long-winded article down the rabbit hole folks, but in today's political climate, you never know what's going to come out of left field. One last hurrah this weekend with the three-day Labor Day weekend, and then it's back to work and school in earnest. Drop me a line at jaygardner1032@gmail.com and we'll see you next week On the Rocks.



The back of the Barney Davis



Adam Hutchison in front of the Barney Davis with a trout.

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By Joey Farah

Backwater Adventures



Close to the causeway the action was fast and furious for these ladies on live piggy perch this week! Farah



I took my crew for a boat ride and stopped in their favorite spot along the Flour Bluff Shoreline, to land three limits of trout on live piggy perch from Marker 37 Marina in just 15 minutes!



These two Homeymooners are still going strong after 55yrs together. They had a great time teaming up to build this mighty stringer topped with a 35" redfish!!

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Slick calm mornings have been fantastic for finding herds of these giant redfish out in the flats! We stuck this one on A DOWN SOUTH LURES, key lime pie. Farah

Medical Minute



By Dr. Mario Martinez

Dr. Mario cont. from A1

Of course, a lot of people smoked cigarettes back then. Smoking decreases the appetite and also causes smokers to burn more calories when they breath. I really don't think this is why there was so much less diabetes in the 70's and 80's though. The prevalence of diagnosed diabetes was only 0.93% of the US population in 1958. The overall prevalence of diagnosed diabetes in the US population between 1960-1962 was estimated to be only 1.8%, according to diabetesjournals.org.

By the 1970s and 1980s...

By the 1970s, approximately 2.0% of American women and 2.7% of American men had type 2 diabetes. These numbers represent the incidence rate, meaning the rate of new cases diagnosed between 1960 and 1970. This was a threefold increase in the number of diabetics in the US during this decade compared to 1958.

By 1980, approximately 5.3% of Americans had diagnosed and undiagnosed diabetes, according to the American Diabetes Association. This percentage was broken down into 3.3% with diagnosed diabetes and 2.0% with undiagnosed diabetes. It was also in about 1980 that our food supply began to change.

High Fructose corn syrup

Food manufacturers started to substitute high fructose corn syrup (HFCS) in place of pure cane sugar because it was so much cheaper. This was when people used to say the Mexican soda pop tasted better than the ones in the US. Pepsi Cola and Coca Cola both switched to HFCS from pure cane sugar in 1984. Mexico did the same thing in the 2013. HFCS is not like other sugars in that it goes directly to the liver to be metabolized. Consumption of HFCS causes the liver to become overwhelmed because the sugar is converted to fat, which is then stored in the liver. So much fat can accumulate in the liver from over-consumption of HFCS that its ability to function normally becomes impaired. Excessive consumption of HFCS causes insulin resistance. This is what leads to weight gain and type 2 diabetes. The impairment of the liver can also cause the onset of gout. Less alcohol can cause cirrhosis in a person with a severe case of fatty liver disease than it normally would require to cause the cirrhosis because of the impaired liver function.

The average American consumed 16.9 pounds of HFCS in 1980. By 1985, the average consumption of HFCS in the US went up to 40.2 pounds per person. That went up to 49.6 pounds of HFCS consumption per person in the US by 1990. In 1995, the average consumption went up to 57.6 pounds per person in the US. By the year 2000 the average consumption went up to 63.8 pounds per person. By the year 2005, consumption of HFCS started to level off. By that year the average consumption of HFCS went down slightly to 59 pounds per person. This was the single most important change in our food supply that has led to the type 2 diabetes and obesity epidemic.

Food manufacturers also started to use highly enriched flour a great deal more than they had in the past beginning in about 1980. Refined flour entails a process by which the husk and the germ are removed from the wheat, and only the pure carbohydrate portion of the grain is ground up. Food manufacturers began adding some nutrients to the pure carbohydrate refined flour and began telling Americans that "enriched flour" was good for you. This push to have people consume more flour products led to a 36% increase in flour and cereal consumption between the years 1980 and 1999. According to "Trends in the U.S. Food Supply, 1970-97", 150 pounds of flour and wheat products were consumed per person per year in the US by 1997.

Animals that we use for food also started to become raised in a factory-type of setting by 1980. This caused the prices of beef, pork, and chicken to decrease. Lower meat prices were one of the things that led to the flourishing of the fast food industry. You remember! It was cheaper to eat some fast food than to go home and cook. In 1980, because of the increased production of beef, chicken, and pork, these meats became more affordable. In 1980 the average price for a pound of ground beef was \$1.29. Chicken prices were between .71 and .79 cents per pound. I remember buying two 2 piece chicken meals with a roll, french fries, and a soft drink for less than \$5.00 in 1980. Americans began eating more fast food beginning in 1980 because it was cheap, readily available, and it tasted pretty good.

From 1980 through 1987, the number of persons in the United States who self-reported

having diabetes mellitus continued to increase by more than 17%. The number of cases increased from an estimated 5.8 million to an estimated 6.8 million persons. These estimates of diabetes were derived from data from the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS).

By 1990, 4.9% of Americans had diagnosed diabetes. By 1998, This figure rose to 6.5%, representing about 13 million people in the US. The prevalence of diabetes continued to increase, with about 8.2% of Americans having diagnosed diabetes by the end of the 1990s. In 2010, approximately 9.3% of Americans had been diagnosed with diabetes. This translates to around 29.1 million people. Of those with diabetes, 90-95% had type 2 diabetes. Roughly 8.4% to 8.8% of the US population in 2010 had type 2 diabetes.

In 2020, approximately 13.2% of adults in the United States had diabetes, with about 10.1% having diagnosed diabetes and 3.1% having undiagnosed diabetes, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This translates to roughly 34.2 million adults with diabetes. The vast majority of these cases were type 2 diabetes.

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) National Diabetes Statistics Report published May 15, 2025, for the year 2021, 11.3% of the population of the United States were diagnosed diabetics. This was 38.4 million people of all ages. Another 3.4% of the US population was believed to be undiagnosed diabetics in 2021. Also in 2021, 38.1 million adults aged 18 years or older had been diagnosed with diabetes or were undiagnosed diabetics. This means that 14.7% of all U.S. adults age 18 and older were diabetics by the end of 2021.

This report also estimated that in 2021, 97.6 million people age 18 years old and older were "pre-diabetic". This means they had a hemoglobin A1C of equal to or greater than 5.7% to 6.4%. We diagnose diabetes when the hemoglobin A1C is equal to or greater than 6.5%. The hemoglobin A1C is the percentage of hemoglobin molecules that have glucose attached to them. The average life span of the red blood cell is three months. This is how the hemoglobin A1C tells us the average level of blood glucose over the past three months.

The most alarming thing that I have discovered from this brief research is that 29.2% of people in the US ages 65 and older were diabetics in 2021! Another report called the, "Estimated number of adults aged 18 years or older with diagnosed diabetes, undiagnosed diabetes, and total diabetes, United States, 2021", showed amongst patients 65 years or older there were 16.5 million diabetics in that year. Another report concluded that by the year 2030 as many as 21 million Americans age 65 and older will be diagnosed diabetics. By the year 2030, it is projected that 13.9% of all adults in the US will have been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes. This does not account for the projected undiagnosed diabetics there will be in the US in 2030. I suspect that the percentage of adult diabetics that will be diagnosed with type 2 diabetes will be quite a bit higher than 13.9% in the year 2030. Based solely on my clinical experience, I would guess that it will be around 18% of the US population that will be diagnosed with type 2 diabetes by the year 2030. I say this because I do not see anything improving in most people's lifestyles, and I don't think most people will change their diets. The only exception that I see as a real possibility for change is in people over 65 years old. Maybe I'm overly optimistic but I think if you get to be that old and you are still pretty healthy, choosing to live longer by making some modifications to your life style won't seem like such a bad idea.

When we turn 65 years old the body is more at risk of sudden death than it was when we were 30 years old. I see this age as a benchmark in our lives when we really need to stop taking foolish risks and try to take better care of ourselves. The way to prevent the onset of type 2 diabetes is to decrease carbohydrate and sugar intake. If you are overweight, get on a low carb/low sugar diet. When we exercise, glucose enters the skeletal muscle cells without the aid of insulin. This is how exercise directly lowers blood sugar. I also recommend not to drink sugary drinks and a reduction in the consumption of alcoholic beverages if you are over 65 years old. If you are fortunate enough to live on the Island, take your partner and your dog and go enjoy a long walk on the beach every day! Oh yeah, also go see your doctor and get your blood work checked at least twice a year.



Thoughts from Reverend Ken

By Rev. Dr. Ken

Jesus enjoyed sharing meals with a wide range of people. Those fellow diners included his followers and frequently those who questioned and opposed him. He also broke bread with those who were socially judged, demeaned, marginalized and excluded. These were people with no voice, no power, no status, no privilege, nothing to offer. It seems the table was never big enough in Jesus' mind. We should take notice in this era of tribal exclusion and us/me first.

At one particular Sabbath meal Jesus watched people scrambling to choose the best seats. This display of pride and avarice must have been a sight. Prestige, honor, and power must have been on the line. I picture a room of politicians, celebrities, or influencers at an open seating banquet. I picture a room of humans vying for recognition and affirmation.

Jesus used this spectacle to tell a parable, a short story intended to teach and illustrate a spiritual lesson. He told of a person invited to a wedding banquet. That person should not sit in the seat of honor. There might be someone more important that attends whom the host would want to be seated in that place of honor. The host would have to ask you to move, thus embarrassing you. Jesus suggested sitting in what he called the lowest place. After all, Jesus continued, the host might invite you to move up, honoring you in the sight of others.

Jesus summarized the story saying that those who exalt themselves will be humbled. Those who humble themselves will be exalted. This is classic upside-down teaching by Jesus. The first shall be last and the last shall be first in the reign and realm of God. In a world that associates exaltation with winning and humility with losing, the teaching of Jesus is a stark judgment against pride. Perhaps this is why Jesus' message is so often revised in our image.

Yet, Jesus was not finished teaching at the end of the parable. The message was not centered on a faux humility that could be used to advance oneself in the presence of others. After all, too much humility can become pride. Jesus turned to the invitation list itself.

Do not invite those who can repay you or better your social standing. Invite those who cannot repay you or better your social standing. The terms Jesus used were the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. In Jesus' day these were the socially demeaned, marginalized, and excluded people. These were people who were socially invisible and forgotten. These were the people who had no voice, no power, no privilege. They had nothing to offer.

Who is welcome? Who is not welcome? This is the essence of Jesus' teaching. The

underlying question therefore is who is missing at our tables of life? Who are we excluding, or silencing?

The image of a great banquet, often a wedding banquet, is a ubiquitous image throughout the Bible. It was used to imagine the end of human history. Human pride being what it is, many over the centuries have had their own notions about who would be invited. Jesus will have none of this narrow thinking. Jesus' issue was not with who was present at the banquet. It was who was not there.

The realm and reign of God is not a closed celebration for a select few. It is a wide-open party of love and grace for all. This is because Jesus is the host. It is Christ who welcomes, who greets, and who seats. Everyone is welcome and loved! We do not need to grasp, grapple, or grab for a seat. This is why winning is not the goal of life. Love is the goal of life. Love that is evidenced in diversity, equity and inclusion. Love that seeks to heal and reconcile.

It would be tempting to think this is a story about the by and by. It is not. It is a teaching for the here and now, like so much of Jesus' teaching.

Who is missing? Whose voice is being silenced? Who is being made to be invisible? Who is being pushed aside and excluded? Jesus intends us to invite them to the banquet.

Summer beach worship will conclude for the season this Sunday. We meet on Whitecap Beach at the end of Whitecap Blvd. at 8 am. Bring a chair and join us! If you park on the beach a current parking permit is required. Well behaved pets are always welcomed!

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

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Going Easy On You...

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

Knuckle-Cracker

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

Mind-Numbing Frustration

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

Brain-Buster

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

The Schlittertower was a work in progress.

Ten Years Ago in the Island Moon



Packery Bar and Grill was under constuction.



The Island Moon got a new sign.

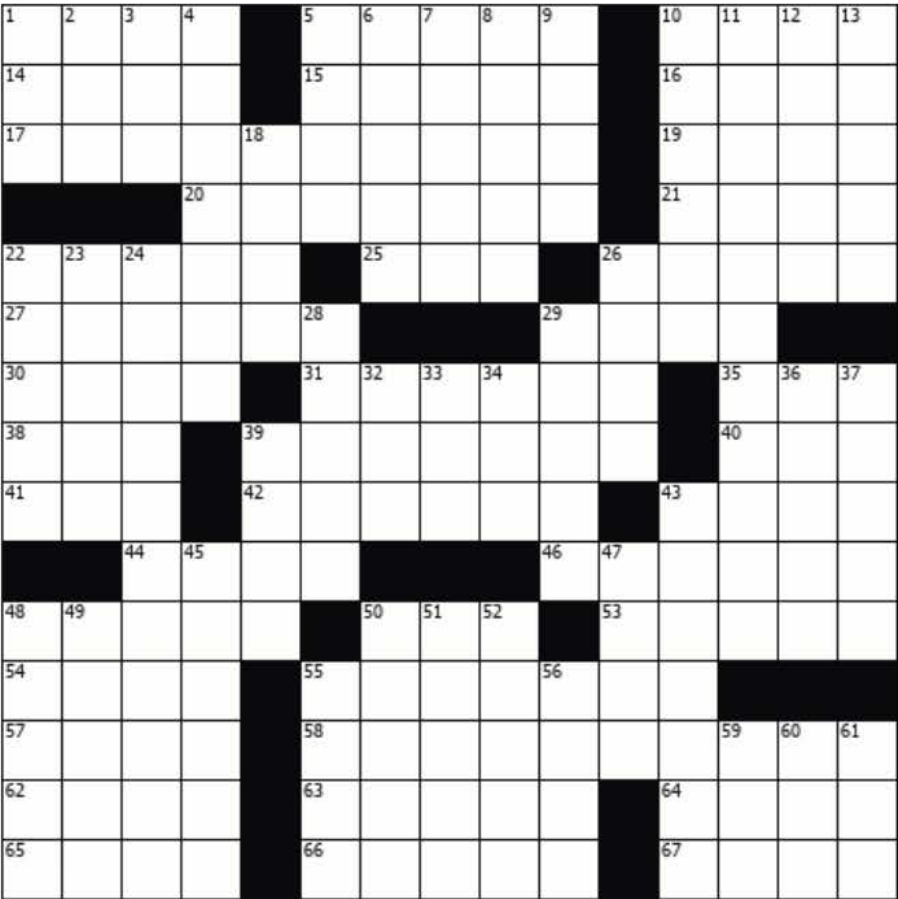
Island Crossword
Crossword Solution on classifieds page

Across

- 1. Suddenly bright star
- 5. Orlando lure
- 10. Perched on
- 14. Ms. Brockovich
- 15. Hunger for
- 16. Record
- 17. Serve eviction notices?
- 19. Creole staple
- 20. Stereo components
- 21. Ground grain
- 22. When haroseth is eaten
- 25. Bar magnet?
- 26. Limber
- 27. Looked with desire
- 29. Kind of support
- 30. SS supplements
- 31. Anatolian capital
- 35. Ernie of the PGA
- 38. Central
- 39. Hazard for King Kong?
- 40. Microscopic
- 41. Ornamental shrub
- 42. Impede
- 43. Asia's inland sea
- 44. Devastation
- 46. Scale distance
- 48. Be miserly
- 50. Dads
- 53. Great expectations
- 54. Lyricist's need
- 55. Guild member
- 57. Seaweed
- 58. Tolerate the Guggenheim's architecture?
- 62. Links
- 63. Jazz Chick
- 64. Lost-and-found fish
- 65. Limber
- 66. Covered with prickles
- 67. Healthy look

Down

- 1. State-of-the-art
 - 2. One who skated on thin ice?
 - 3. Strive for superiority
 - 4. Gets the phone
 - 5. Reverberate
 - 6. Some univ. figures
 - 7. Bit part
 - 8. Undisguised
 - 9. Hardy heroine
 - 10. Like some plants
 - 11. Pick up a coat?
 - 12. Bookish hostess
 - 13. Name of a U.S. art family
- 18. Skedaddled
 - 22. Gunk-covered
 - 23. Unsettlingly strange
 - 24. Job for the Maytag repairman?
 - 26. Skimpy
 - 28. "Splish Splash" singer, 1958
 - 29. Cape Cod town
 - 32. Bert's Bobbsey twin
 - 33. "The Spanish Tragedy" playwright
 - 34. Voting qualification
 - 36. Sabbatical
 - 37. Two-time U.S. Open winner
 - 39. Jot
- 43. It clears consciences
 - 45. On edge
 - 47. Singe
 - 48. Rotisserie league figures
 - 49. Dutch beauty
 - 50. Surgery forerunner
 - 51. Gaming pioneer
 - 52. Loud warning
 - 55. Classroom basics
 - 56. Persuade
 - 59. Toothpaste type
 - 60. Med. provider
 - 61. Highway bailout



Ten years ago Schlitterbahn was open but still under construction. Note the channel to the west side of SPID is in place but not on the east.

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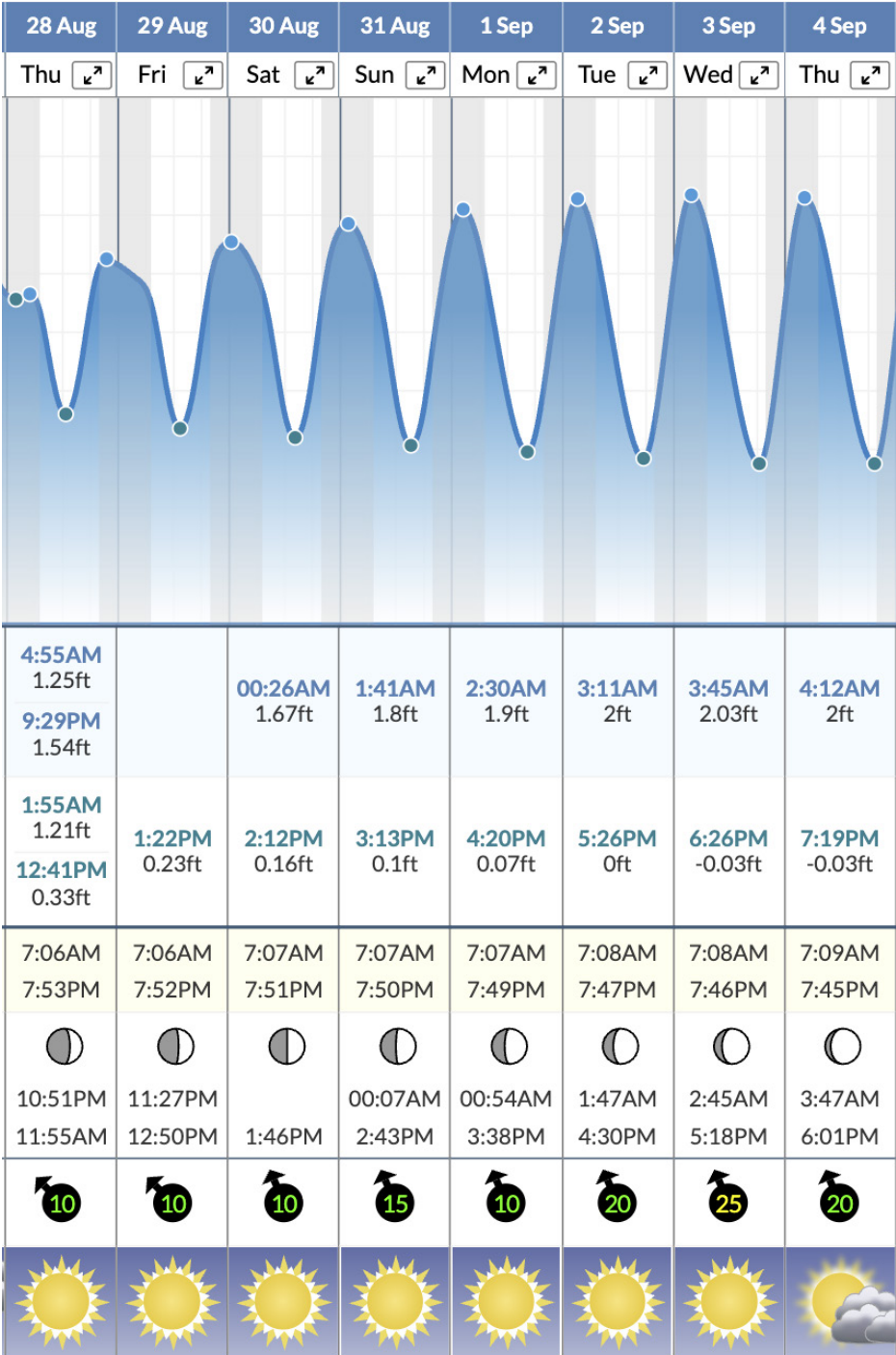
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Tides of the Week



Crossword Solution

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



Labor Day flashback, or “THE GREAT GRASS FIRE OF 1985”

By Gene Saegert

With the advent of Labor Day coming up it seemed only fitting to do the Labor Day BBQ thing. I had one of those chimney type charcoal starter thingies and if you add enough charcoal lighter fluid to it you can get some really tall flames shooting up incredibly high. (Kids, do not try this at home.) Not that I would do that, although charcoal, charcoal lighter and a grill always have the makings for a guy thing. Now, being safety conscious, I had the charcoal flames disappearing into the trees at least a foot below the tree branches a mere two to three foot high flames. At that time my wife walked by on the way to the workshop. Now, she could have said “How’s it going Hon?” or “Nice big flames, they remind me of the torch I carry for you.” But, “don’t burn down the trees” was a potential moment killer. Now I realize that women never forget your mistakes, and I am sure she had in mind “The Great Bottle Rocket Fire of 85. In my defense how was I to know that an innocent bottle rocket fight would escalate into kin against kin bottle rocket

Armageddon and grass fire.... Ok, to my wife’s credit, maybe we should have heeded her warning that day, and maybe 23 acres of brush and a two story house would not have been threatened.

But to my credit no buildings were lost, just a little grass, and as far as chicken coops go.... Well let’s just say if you have ever lived on a farm and butchered your own chickens, you know that the chickens have to be singed any way. Also too our credit the bucket brigade and the wet blanket handlers got the fire out eventually and the Orange Grove Volunteer Fire Department didn’t even have to get involved. As far as Great Grandma’s handmade quilt, it was very old and I don’t think it was going to last much longer anyway. Well then it was back to the task of grilling the burgers and the shrimp kabobs. Just so you will know, no trees were burned and I am pretty sure those tomato plants were dying anyway.

Thought for the day. When vultures fly, do they get one carrion bag free of charge?

TPWD Purchases 112 Commercial Oyster Licenses through Buyback Program



During the ninth round of the Commercial Oyster Boat License Buyback Program, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) received 115 commercial oyster boat applications and purchased 112 commercial oyster licenses. The 112 purchased licenses represent a 21 percent reduction of all oyster licenses available in Texas.

TPWD administers voluntary commercial fishing license buyback programs for inshore shrimp, crab and finfish fisheries, all of which have had a license moratorium since 2005 or earlier. The program represents a unique opportunity for willing license holders to exit the fishery, helping reduce pressure on stocks and oyster reefs.

After receiving authority from the Texas Legislature in 2017, TPWD held its first buyback for oyster licenses in 2018. Prior to this round, the department only purchased three licenses in the combined eight rounds. After receiving feedback from the industry and stakeholders on how to achieve great

success with the buyback program, TPWD changed the approach with the help of key partners.

This year, instead of a reverse bid process used in previous buyback rounds, TPWD offered a fixed, \$30,000 buyback price for each license, which was made possible through outside philanthropic support.

TPWD originally aimed to purchase a total of 150 commercial oyster licenses but is still very pleased at the progress and milestone of buying back 112 licenses. Improving the health of wild oyster reefs remains a top priority for the department, as wild oyster abundance has declined due to several factors. Both the oyster industry and various conservation groups have identified license buybacks as a successful method for reducing harvest pressure on wild oyster reefs for recovery. TPWD will continue to pursue other avenues to improve oyster habitat, including restoration.

Strong Populations and Prime Conditions Set Stage for Promising Dove Season



Despite early weather challenges, Texas dove hunters can look forward to a strong 2025 season. Spring population surveys conducted by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) staff found mourning dove numbers continue to trend near historic highs. Combined with strong habitat conditions across much of the state, hunters should expect solid opportunities when the 2025 dove season opens Sept. 1. Estimates place the statewide mourning dove population at 35.9 million birds, a 5 percent increase from 2024 and 28 percent above the long-term average. White-winged dove numbers dipped slightly from last year’s record but remain strong at an estimated 11.7 million, the third highest estimate on record. “Heavy wind and rain brought on by storms that moved across parts of the state this spring likely impacted peak nesting season in hard hit areas, particularly parts of the hill country” said Owen Fitzsimmons, TPWD Webless Migratory Game Bird Program Leader. “But the milder temperatures and abundant rainfall created excellent breeding conditions across most of the state this summer. We’re in a very strong position heading into the opener.” Fitzsimmons noted that the other benefit to the spring and summer rains is the impact to food sources for doves later in the year. “This year, there should be plenty of preferred dove forage seeding out just in time for some late fall action in October, at the end of the first segment and into the second,” said Fitzsimmons. Birds may still be scattered across the landscape while food and water remain widely available. As August heat dries things out, hunters are likely to find larger groups gathering at watering holes. Doves typically feed and water twice a day, so scouting their movement throughout the day is key to a successful hunt. Focus on agriculture fields or areas with native food sources like sunflower, croton and other annual forbs and grasses. Texas is home to seven species of native doves and pigeons, including the three legal game species—mourning, white-winged and white-tipped doves. Texas continues to lead the nation in dove hunting, accounting for 32 percent of the

mourning dove and 87 percent of the white-winged dove harvest in the U.S. annually. More than 300,000 hunters take part each year, generating more than \$500 million in economic activity. TPWD reminds hunters to prepare for the early season heat. Bring plenty of water, seek shade during peak hours, watch for signs of overheating in dogs and be mindful in dense vegetation when retrieving downed birds. The regular dove seasons are as follows:

- North Zone: Sept. 1 – Nov. 9, resuming Dec. 19, 2025 – Jan. 7, 2026
- Central Zone: Sept. 1 – Oct. 26, resuming Dec. 12, 2025 – Jan. 14, 2026
- South Zone: Sept. 14 – Oct. 26, resuming Dec. 12, 2025 – Jan. 22, 2026

This year there will be five Special White-Winged Dove Days:

- Friday, Sept. 5 – Sunday, Sept. 7
- Friday, Sept. 12 – Saturday, Sept. 13

During Special White-winged Dove Days in the South Zone, hunting is allowed from noon to sunset only, with a daily bag limit of 15 birds, including no more than two mourning doves and two white-tipped doves. Starting Sept. 14 in the South Zone, the regular daily aggregate bag limit is 15 doves, which may include no more than two white-tipped doves. Full hunting regulations are available on the Texas Outdoor Annual mobile app or online at [OutdoorAnnual.com](https://www.texasoutdoorannual.com). All dove hunters must carry:

- A valid hunting license
- A Migratory Game Bird Endorsement
- HIP certification (survey completed during license purchase)

Additionally, anyone born after Sept. 1, 1971, must complete a hunter education course before hunting in Texas. Certification is valid for life and recognized in all states and provinces. Lack of hunter education certification and the migratory game bird endorsement rank as the two most common hunting violations during dove season.

Texas Parks & Wildlife

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Three Chords and the Truth



By Ronnie Narmour
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Enter Betty & Wilma...



Welcome Betty and Wilma to the family.

In this past year we lost two of our beloved cats to old age. My **Mermaid Gal** had them their whole lives and it was a sad blow to both of us. We said our final goodbyes to sweet **Ditty** and **Moose** and only our big fella, **Edward** remained. It's amazing how attached we get to our pets. After grieving our loss, we talked about bringing new pets into the lair but didn't actively pursue it, so it's just been the three of us and we all got used to that arrangement, but honestly, we still felt the void. Enter our dear friends **Nikki** and **Lindsey** who have an active role in fostering stray cats and dogs and finding them new homes. So, Nikki called a couple of weeks ago saying she had a couple of little kitties who were dumped in front of a pet store in Corpus and thought they would be perfect for us. They were sisters about three months old and really needed to find their "forever" home. I wasn't sure I had it in me to raise two more kiddos at this point in my already long life, but **Tracy** was all over it. So, welcome **Betty** and **Wilma** into the lair. It's taken some "getting used to" for all of us, especially Edward who, out of caution, we haven't left alone with them yet. I find it amazing how a couple of little kitties can humor our lives so quickly. It's really been fun.

Don't follow me...



My house was trashed from Harvey exactly 8 years ago.

Hurricane Harvey was eight years ago this week. I mention this not because it's something we should celebrate, but because it's a clear reminder of how easily everyone's lives can turn upside down in the matter of just a few days... and to be ready for it. I have been up close to a lot of big storms in my life, but Harvey is noteworthy because it was a direct hit and I wasn't ready for it. I was on a ladder boarding up my windows when the cops came around with their loud speakers and enforced the "mandatory evacuation". The ferries had already stopped running, I was by myself and wasn't quite sure what to do at that moment... so I headed for Austin by way of Bastrop with very little in the way of *survival* provisions and took the eastern route up 183 that I usually take through Rockport, Refugio, Goliad, Cuero and Gonzales. That turned out to be the exact route that Harvey went once he made landfall in Rockport. I headed back to Port A the next morning to get back to work and to report the news and ran right into the eye of Harvey when I got to Cuero. Note to self: plan your next hurricane evacuation in a direction not in the direct path of the hurricane you are trying to avoid. Here's a pic of my house in Port A after Harvey chewed it up and spit it out.

On the local front...

This is the official end of our *100 Days of Summer*. Yeppers, its *Labor Day Weekend* and our much awaited "sweet spot" is upon us. Soon we'll be digging through the back of our closets to pull out those long sleeves and winter britches. Next on the fun agenda we have the holidays: *Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Eve* and *Daylight Sav-*

ings ends on November 2nd. It's time to put away your straw hats and break out the felt ones. And in the middle of all this, our *Winter Texan* families will start to trickle in, usually after *Thanksgiving* and the **PA Rockers** will again play EVERY Wednesday at *Bernie's*. OK tourists, you hear that? You can go away now. Come back in March and bring lots of money.

Scattered shots...



Splendiferous will play Bron's on Saturday the 30th.

The weather people had us dodging rain all weekend that never happened. These outdoor music venues will be the death of me. I know the **Independent Thieves** cancelled their show at *Bron's* last Friday because it was supposed to rain but we didn't get a drop. But there were plenty of other shows around town like **Billy Snipes, John Cortez, Brodie Lane, Dreaming in Color, The Jam Band, Darryl Lee Rush, Tyler McCumber, Flying Free, No Wake Zone** and **Carson Miller**. Not too shabby. I really dug the **Brodie Lane** show at the *Sip Yard*. **A.J. Vallejo** is an incredible entertainer. Also, Cortez knocked it out of the park at *Shorty's*... he ALWAYS does.

Coming this week...



Jon Car will play Treasure Island this Friday the 29th.

On Thursday, August 28th we have **Brett Axelson** playing the *Sip Yard* and the hilarious **Jim Bush** will play the *Gaff*. On Friday our resident Coon Asses, **Boudreaux and Pousson**, will get the gals wiggling at the *Gaff*... that's a guarantee. Also on Friday, **Pauline Reese** and **Rich O'Toole** will play the *Sip Yard*, San Antonio guitar god **Ruben V** will set the stage on fire at *Bron's*, local country music legends **Tumble Dry Low** with the dynamic **Brian Kasik** on lead vocals will play *Shorty's* and **Jon Car** will rock out at *Treasure Island*. Coming this Saturday the *Gaff* will host the WORLD FAMOUS BELT SANDER RACES at 6PM. This race is dubbed the *Championship Invitational* race and will be a show NOT TO MISS. **Jim Dugan** will provide the music before and after the show. Pro tip: smart money is on the **Moon Monkey**. After this weekend the *Gaff* will return to their regular bi-monthly races every 2nd and 4th Saturday starting at 4:00. Also on Saturday we have the great **Clay Hollis** at the *Sip Yard*, **Heavy Soul** will bring their hard rocking funk and soul to *Shorty's*, **Splendiferous** will perform their classic rock mix at *Bron's* and local country music/Americana stud **JonMikael MREZ** will play the late night show at *Treasure Island*. Also on Saturday, **Max Stalling** will play the big stage at *Palmilla Beach Resort* with **Timber Wild**. Have a great holiday weekend.

♪♪♪ And, that's the truth ♪♪♪



Tumble Dry Low will play Shorty's this Friday.



Boudreaux & Pousson will play the Gaff on Friday.



Clay Hollis will play the Sip Yard on Saturday. Photo by Cassandra Beth

LIVE MUSIC TONIGHT

Thursday.

August 28

Brett Axelson @ Sip Yard
Chris Ivory & Friends @ Shorty's
Jim Bush @ Gaff
Open Jam w/ Brad Ethridge @ Port A
Beer Hut
Black Flag @ Brewster Downtown
Michael Burtt @ Brewster on the Island
Aaron Jacob @ Brewster Southside
Robin Blue @ Angry Marlin
Brad Brown @ Blackbeard's on the Beach

Friday, August 29

Boudreaux & Pousson @ Gaff
Pauline Reese @ Sip Yard
Tumble Dry Low @ Shorty's
Ruben V @ Bron's Backyard
Jon Car @ Treasure Island
Trisum @ Brewster Island
Mario Flores @ Brewster Downtown
Love Street @ Pelican Lounge

Saturday.

August 30

Championship BELT SANDER RACES @ Gaff 6 PM
Clay Hollis @ Sip Yard
Heavy Soul @ Shorty's
Splendiferous @ Bron's Backyard
Jim Dugan @ Gaff
Jonmikael MREZ @ Treasure Island
Max Stalling, Timber Wilde @ Palmilla Train, Edwin McCain @ Concrete Street
Alley Catz Duo @ Brewster Southside
Carson Jeffrey @ Brewster Downtown
Robin Blue @ Firefly Resort
Cruise Control @ Sugar Shack
Carson Jeffrey @ Brewster Downtown
Lisa Sullivan @ Pier 99
Boudreaux & Pousson @ Bay Area Brew

Sunday, August 31

Cruise Control @ Sip Yard
Jim Dugan, Ty Dietz @ Shorty's
DuneBillies @ Gaff
Five Card Draw @ Treasure Island
Lisa Sullivan @ Waters Edge
Love Street @ Pioneer TV Resort
Rip Tide Cowboy Open Mic @ Calypso Drive and Drive
Robin Blue @ Padre Island Burger Co.
John Cortez @ Lucky Dogz

LABOR DAY.

September 1

Love Street @ The Pearl
US- Penny & Joe @ Pelican Lounge

Tuesday.

September 2

Carl Hayes Open Mic @ Salty Dolphin
Rich Lockhart @ Packery Bar
Los Locals @ Palm Republic

Wednesday.

September 3

Book Club @ Ellis Library PA
Open Mic w/ Brad Ethridge @ Gaff
Cleartones @ Port A
VFW
Ejey- Eddie Alaniz @ Pelican Lounge

Thursday.

September 4

Robert McCoy @ Gaff
Nathan Allen @ Brewster Southside
Scarecrow People @ Brewster Island
Matt Castillo @ Brewster Downtown
Love Street @ Pier 99

Friday.

September 5

Caleb Young @ Sip Yard
Reno Perez @ Shortys
Boudreaux & Pousson @ Gaff
Austin Forrest @ Bron's
Back Pew Revival @ Treasure Island
Aaron Jacobs @ Brewster Southside

KARAOKE EVERY MONDAY 7-10

RUBEN V	AUG 29 & SEPT 13
SPLENDIFEROUS	AUG 30
AUSTIN FORREST	SEPT 5
ALOHA DAVE	SEPT 6
BOONE HOLDING	SEPT 12
JOEY ST. VINCENT	SEPT 19

JON CAR **AUG 29**
JONMIKAEL MREZ **AUG 30**
FIVE CARD DRAW **AUG 31**
BACK PEW REVIVAL **SEPT 5**
CARSON MILLER **SEPT 6**
KITCHEN OPEN UNTIL 1:30 AM

PAULINE REESE **AUG 29**
CLAY HOLLIS **AUG 30**
CRUISE CONTROL **AUG 31**
CALEB YOUNG **SEPT 5**
18 HOURS **SEPT 6**
SHINYRIBS **OCT 31**

OPEN JAM EVERY WED WITH BRAD
BELT SANDER RACES EVERY 2ND & 4TH SAT

JIM BUSH	AUG 28 & SEPT 11
BOO & POO	AUG 29 & SEPT 5
ROBERT MCCOY	SEPT 4
JIM DUGAN	SEPT 6
NO WAKE ZONE	SEPT 12

JIM DUGAN & TY DIETZ EVERY SUN
CHRIS IVORY & FRIENDS EVERY THUR

TUMBLE DRY LOW	AUG 29
HEAVY SOUL	AUG 30
RENO PEREZ	SEPT 5
THE DRIVE	SEPT 6
PIG PARTY W/ NIK PARR	OCT 11

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OPEN DAILY AT 11 AM
LIVE MUSIC
HOT PIZZA