

Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting for Crystal Beach Car Wash

Update on Highway 87 Project



Crystal Beach Car Wash, located at 2921 Hwy 87, Crystal Beach, is open and ready for business. With the beach, sand and salt in the air now there's no reason to drive off the peninsula in a dirty vehicle or take a dirty golf cart, UTV or boat home dirty. The car wash is equipped with three extra large bays and plenty of room to move around and get every inch of your vehicle clean. Ready for an undercarriage wash? Drive thru the far west bay and wash under your vehicle and leave all sand and salt behind for your drive home.

There are four Vacuum Islands making it easy for you to clean the inside just like the outside. Crystal Beach Car Wash is open 24 hours a day with ample lighting and security cameras so you feel safe after sundown. A Boat Motor Flush is available in each bay for outboard motors and when it comes to payment you can pay with coins or credit cards making it easy and trouble free. Need change, a change machine is located on the south side of the building along with supplies to put a sparkle on you vehicle. Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting brought to you by: Bolivar Peninsula Tourism and Visitors Center and The Beach Triton.

The following information was received from Commissioner Apffel's office on February 9.

- Environmental Study: expected to be cleared by May, 2018
- Project going to bid: May, 2018
- Construction to begin: July, 2018
- First 2 miles from Gilchrist towards High Island will be raised average about 12 inches.
- Rest of the roadway towards High Island will be raised average about 22 inches.

During Hurricane Harvey it is our understanding from the Galveston EOC which was in contact with emergency personal on the Peninsula that SH 87 was never under water and had no tidal impacts from the hurricane.

W. Seth Collins
Policy & Constituent Advisor
Office of Commissioner Darrell A. Apffel,
Precinct 1
(409) 770-5544 -
Seth.Collins@co.galveston.tx.us
Related Story: Hwy 87 elevation project

Spring Breakers!
Welcome to the Bolivar Peninsula
"COME FOR VACATION, DON'T LEAVE ON PROBATION"

Spring Forward - March 11
Daylight Savings Time

Local Deputy Constable Recognized by Commissioners' Court

Derreck Rose, Constable

While working traffic on the Bolivar Peninsula Chris was attempting to pull over a motor vehicle for speeding. The vehicle would not stop after Chris activated his emergency equipment. Chris did not believe the vehicle was fleeing, so he pulled on side of the motor vehicle and observed an elderly female operating the motor vehicle.

While riding alongside the vehicle Chris observed a male occupant in the passenger seat clutching his chest. Chris realized they where headed to the ferry landing enroute to UTMB. At this point Chris gave them an emergency escort to the ferry landing. But during the escort Chris had contacted Port Bolivar first responders who had staged at the ferry landing. The elderly male received medical treatment and was transported to UTMB where he arrived not in cardiac arrest.

Chris was recognized by Galveston County Commissioner Court for his quick thinking under pressure and his going above the call of duty.





Welcome Spring Breakers

Every Saturday at Noon
Crawfish Boil with Live Entertainment

March 2nd March 17

Bert Hebert St Paddy's Day Party

7 - 11 6 till 10

Irish Karaoke

Easter ~ April 1

May 19th

Topless Jeep Weekend
Guilty with Todd Starks ~ Live Band

7:00 PM



May 26th

Mixx Fixxer



May 27th

KILO 19

"A Walk to Remember"

Starts and Ends at Tiki

Music



Community Announcements


For your reading enjoyment, the entire Beach Triton is online
www.bolivarpeninsulatexas.com/About/Businesses/The-Beach-Triton

Bolivar Peninsula AA
Crystal Beach Community Church
 936-404-3401 or 281-728-8408
 Mondays, Thursdays & Saturdays
 @ 7pm

Crystal Beach Community Church
 (1020 Diamond Hill)
 The hours are 10 - 2 pm every Thursday
 A proof of residence is needed to qualify

Who you gonna call?
Mosquito Control
 1-800-842-5622
Dolphin Rescue
 1-800-962-6625
Sea Turtle Network
 1-866-887-8535
Injured Wildlife
 713-861-9453

Gnarly Gull t-shirts will be available for purchase on the website www.gnarlygull.com starting mid January hopefully, but they will be made to order and so will be a little more expensive. New stickers are coming and possibly a hat, too!

In Memory Of
Jacob Wade Kent
 December 20, 1982 - April 2, 2005
 The Jacob Kent Memorial Scholarship Fund awards a \$2,000 Scholarship to a High Island Graduate each year. Contributions can be sent to Jacob's Ladder, P O Box 291 ~ High Island, TX 77623. *A man is not deceased while his name is still spoken*

Quit dawdling, just subscribe
 The Beach Triton
 P. O. Box 1165
 Crystal Beach, TX 77650
 Subscriptions \$25.00 per year



Community Cross Walk
 Starting at Chamber of Commerce Park
 On Highway 87 @ Noble Carl Rd.
Join us - 10 am



CRYSTAL BEACH Community CHURCH
 1020 Diamond Road
 PO Box 1862
 Crystal Beach, TX 77650
 Sunday Worship 10:30am
Pastor Kaye Sims
 (409) 920-2070
crystalbeachcommunitychurch@gmail.com
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 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM
 Monday, Wednesday, Friday
Gentle Aerobics
 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM
 Monday, Wednesday, Friday
BIBLE STUDY
 Monday ~ 5:00 PM
CHOIR PRACTICE
 Wednesday - 5:00 PM
MONTHLY EVENTS AT BAYVUE UMC
MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST
 2nd Monday of each Month - 8:00 AM
PRAYER WARRIORS
 2nd and 4th Mondays - 10:00 AM

Galveston County Mosquito Control
 (800) 842-5622



The Beach Triton
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High Island Cardinals



HIGH ISLAND HS SENIORS 2018 INFORMATION SHEET

UPCOMING SCHOLARSHIPS:

HS Counselor has Due Dates and most applications

Moody Scholarship
Mary Cecile Chambers
Galveston County Junior League
Houston Livestock Show/Area GO TEXAN (rodeohouston.com)
Galveston College Scholarships (www.gc.edu)
Bolivar Peninsula Lions Club Youth Scholarship
Re/Max Scholarship
Bolivar Peninsula Ministerial Alliance
Prosperity Bank
Education First Credit Union
Cardinal Club Scholarships
Masonic Lodge Scholarship
Norman & Patsy Rollins Memorial Scholarship
Texas Crab Festival Charities, Inc. Scholarship
Saltgrass Shootout Scholarship
Minute Maid Grand Slam for Youth Baseball www.gsfb.com
Texas Rice Festival Academic Scholarship www.texasricefestival.com
Al's Formal Wear College Sch. Alsformalwear.com/scholarships-apply.asp



Please remember that students' selected college scholarships are also available based on acceptance and class ranking. FAFSA must be completed.

COLLEGE LINKS:

TO REGISTER TO TAKE THE ACT
TO REGISTER TO TAKE THE SAT
TO REGISTER TO TAKE THE THEA
TO APPLY TO A COLLEGE

www.act.org
www.collegeboard.com
www.thea.nesinc.com
www.applytexas.org

OTHER WEBSITES TO LOOK FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AND COLLEGES:

www.fastweb.com
http://scholarshipexperts.com
http://www.scholarships.com/
http://schoolsoup.com/scholarship-directory
http://www.college-scholarships.com/free_scholarship_searches.html
www.fastaid.com
www.collegenet.com
www.collegefortexans.com
www.gocollege.com
www.collegeview.com

FINANCIAL AID WEBSITES:

www.fafsa.gov
www.pin.ed.gov

Varsity Softball

3/1	Anahuac	T	
3/9	Hamshire/Fannett	T	5 PM
3/12	Sabine Pass	H	4:30 PM
3/20	Hull Daisetta	T	4:30 PM
3/23	West Hardin	H	4:30 PM
3/24	Katy ISD JV Tourney	T	
3/27	Deweyville	H	4:30 PM
3/29	Evadale	T	4:30 PM

Varsity Baseball

3/8	East Chambers Tourney		
3/13	Hull Daisetta	T	4 PM
3/16	Deweyville	H	4 PM
3/20	Spurger	T	4 PM
3/23	West Hardin	T	4 PM
3/26	Big Sandy	H	4 PM
3/29	Sabine Pass	T	6 PM

Congrats to these Lady Cardinals varsity basketball players for being named to the All District Team:

District MVP - Baja Guidry
Defensive MVP - Faith Berger
1st Team All District - Kayla Gray and August Evans
2nd Team All District - Cayleigh Loop and Bailey Montelongo



Upcoming School Events

3/9	End of 4th Six Weeks
3/12 - 3/16	Spring Break Week
3/19	Begin 5th Six Weeks
3/30	Good Friday Student/Teacher Holiday



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN BAKE SALE!

Not only can, "You can have your cake and eat it too," you can also consume pies, cookies and brownies thanks to the United Methodist Women (UMW). President Cindy Hunt announced that UMW is planning a Bake Sale for Friday, March 16 from 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM. This tantalizing event takes place on the grounds of Bay Vue United Methodist Church, HWY 87. Proceeds will benefit UMW.



UMW contributes so much to our Bolivar Peninsula Community and to people near and far. They mentor students at Crenshaw School and provide an Appreciation Luncheon for teachers and staff. Their August Back To School Party was a hit with children and adults. Women sewed blankets and quilts for UTMB-Jennie Sealy Hospital and sponsored a donation drive for the Galveston Ronald McDonald House. Their outreach crossed the ocean in the form of pillow case dresses, britches and school supplies for young folk in Africa.

Not only can these gals sew and quilt, help children prepare for school, and touch the lives of those in need, they can also BAKE. Their creations are the stuff of gourmet chefs. Don't pass up a chance to savor these heavenly desserts. (You will probably desire more than one.)

Mark your calendars and save the date. Come on by Bay Vue UMC where you can purchase delicious cakes, pies, cookies, and brownies. And, you can eat them too!



SYNCOPE



Members of SYNCOPE choir

Imagine your doctor bursting forth into pleasing song, or your therapist humming a relaxing tune! It could happen if you are lucky enough to have a member of SYNCOPE, an a capella singing group, as your healer.

We attended the yearly OLLI Jazz Brunch at Mario's in Galveston. Not only were we treated to a fine jazz band, but also a surprise addition named SYNCOPE. They are volunteer singers formed from the UTMB student population. Students from the various schools at UTMB are welcome to join. Most of the current choir is made up of first year medical students, and one from the school of Health Professions for Occupational Therapy. SYNCOPE's president is a fourth year medical student.


Oh, and these youngsters can carry a tune. Attendees at the brunch were charmed with standards including The Longest Time, Fly Me to The Moon, Stand by Me, Lollipop, All the Things You Are and Lean on Me. Their harmony was so close and smooth. They were a creamy dessert to a delicious meal.

This choir volunteers to sing at various locations. You may want to invite them to your next party or meeting. Contact Mariely Mejorado – MS 1, Syncope Public Relations at mjmejora@utmb.edu (916) 637-8297. Of course, they do spend most of their time in studies, but if you book them at the right time, you will be enchanted with their sounds.

We did wonder. Why SYNCOPE? It is a play on words. "Syncope" is the medical term for fainting. The music term "syncopation" is a type of musical effect involving off beat rhythm. Who knew? Do contact SYNCOPE when you want harmonious and healing sounds!



SYNCOPE entertains at OLLI Brunch



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Escrow Assistant

Cooking with Miss "Obler"

Janice Oliver, Retired Home Ec Teacher, HIISD

March winds bring April showers . . . What better time to put on a pot of soup!

I asked my mother once to tell me how she made her soup because I loved it! She e-mailed me her answer.

SOUP

Get a soup bone and put it on boil with water to cover it. Cut up a medium to large onion, 1/2 bell pepper, salt and pepper to taste. Add to pot. Cook for about an hour or so and add 3 carrots, 2 potatoes cut up fairly small, and add a can of stewed tomatoes and a can of tomato paste. Simmer until slightly thickened. I just cook it until I am ready to eat it. Never do really time it. Just want the meat on the soup bone to be tender. Enjoy.

It makes a good bit in my 8 quart pot. Enjoy. Good night, love Mother.

I can still taste it. Guess it is time to go put on a pot.

MELODIE'S TACO SOUP

- 1 package taco seasoning
- 1 package ranch dressing mix

- 1 can cream-style corn
- 1 can whole kernel corn
- 1 can Ro-tel tomatoes
- 1 can diced tomatoes
- 1 can kidney beans
- 1 can Ranch style beans
- 1 pound hamburger meat

Brown the hamburger meat. Add rest of ingredients and heat.

Serve on top: Fritos, sour cream, cheese
Option: The soup can be made without the hamburger meat.

BEVERLY'S VEGETABLE SOUP

- 2 pounds hamburger meat cooked with large, chopped onion

Open the following cans and mix together in a pot. Do not drain--Use the juice.

- 1 can Veg-All
- 1 can green lima beans
- 1 can whole kernel corn
- 1 can cut green beans
- 1 can cut carrots

- 2 cans tomato sauce
- 2 cans any type tomato (stewed, diced, seasoned)

Pour hamburger meat into a pot with the vegetables, grease and all. Boil for 20-30 minutes so flavors can blend. Then add a can of Cream of Celery soup and stir.

JENNIFER BOSSLEY'S TACO SOUP

- 1 whole chicken or 2 large boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 1 can ranch-style beans with juice
- 1 can corn, drained
- 1 can carrots, drained
- 1 can Ro-tel
- 1 package taco seasoning mix
- 1 package dry ranch dressing mix

Boil chicken. Remove chicken from water and allow to cool. Using the stock from the water, add to it the ranch-style beans, corn, carrots, Ro-tel, taco seasoning, and ranch dressing mix. Add in shredded chicken.

Let soup simmer until ready to serve. Serve with tortillas and cheese.

Happy Birthday! Brent Borden March 6	Happy Birthday! Debra Gernert March 3	Happy Birthday! LuLu (Mary Lou) March 13	Happy Birthday! Lisa Day March 12	Happy Birthday! Lee Brittain March 25	Happy Birthday! Braylon Robb March 25	Happy Birthday! Carolyn Britton March 16	Happy Birthday! Millie Griffith March 13
Happy Birthday! Phoenix Huffman March 10	Happy Birthday! Orbin Thompson March 16	Happy Birthday! Richard Thompson March 8	Happy Birthday! Steve Noah March 10	Happy Birthday! Patty Norris March 14	Happy Birthday! Jay McCurdy March 14	Happy Birthday! Carrie Goeloe March 14	Happy Birthday! Lynn Forey March 29



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March 2018

2	Friday	The Cadillacs 6:30 - 10 PM	17	Saturday	Drugstore Gypsies 6:30 - 10:00 PM
3	Saturday	Los Mighty Hooks 6:30 - 10 PM	23	Friday	Secret Party Band 6:30 - 10 PM
9	Friday	Tommy Alverson and Matt Hillyer Song Swap 6:30 - 10 PM	24	Saturday	The LineUp 6:30 - 10 PM
10	Saturday	Crossroads 6:30 - 10 PM	30	Friday	3-Way Switch 6:30 - 10 PM
16	Friday	Phil Pritchett 6 :30 - 10 PM	31	Saturday	Bobby Enloe and the Texas Hold'em Band 6:30 - 10 PM



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Peninsula Sports Park Game ON!



Pictured above are the Bad News Beach Bums wearing their practice shirts sponsored by Texas Farm Bureau. The Farm Bureau also sponsored games shirts for the team.

Meet the Mermaids, PSP cheering squad. The cheerleaders were added to the activity list this year and they practice daily.



The Keep Bolivar Beautiful group was given a \$500 anonymous donation to be presented to the Mermaid Cheering Squad to support them with their needs including uniforms and music.

In turn, the Mermaids are acting Ambassadors for Keep Bolivar Beautiful and were presented KBB shirts and blue garbage bags.

Pictured to the right are Nelva Maxey, Brenda Flanagan, Leslie Lowe, Claudia Perkins and Carlis Cole. The KBB board presented the \$500 check to Leslie Lowe, representing PSP.



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Mardi Gras Parade Starts HERE!

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Have you noticed this guy watching over the Bolivar Peninsula?

Ryan Kent contributed this bald eagle sighting picture taken in the Biscayne subdivision.

The Eagle majestically poses on a telephone pole and is seemingly in control of his entire habitat.

The bald eagle is the national bird and national animal of the United States of America.

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Win your beach some bragging rights

So you think you have the best beach in the United States! You think that your beach is the widest, has the best sand, and provides the absolutely best place to throw down your beach towel and spend a glorious day underneath a picture-perfect blue sky?

Well, then you should submit your beach for the Best Restored Beach award so that, when you win you will have unquestionable bragging rights for years to come.

The Best Restored Beach award has recognized restored beaches around the country annually since 2002. The American Shore & Beach Preservation Association (ASBPA) invites communities around the country to submit their coasts for consideration for a Best Restored Beach award as a way both to honor local projects and remind beach users that their favorite shoreline has been restored to maintain its recreational and protective value.

The impetus for the award was to help communities avoid having their restored beachfronts being taken for granted by residents and visitors who were unaware of the many nourishment efforts that have helped keep beaches around the country wide and healthy. The award has been given to an array of beaches from pristine protected coastlines to wide tourist-centric beaches, from urban beach parks to rejuvenated protective barrier beaches. (A full list of past winners is online at asbpa.org/about-us/awards-program/best-restored-beaches-past-winners/.)

The three important reasons for restoring beaches are:

Storm protection — A wide sandy beach and high dunes help separate storm waves from upland structures and infrastructure thus reducing the impacts of erosion and flooding.

Habitat restoration — Numerous species rely on wide, healthy beaches as a place to live, feed, and nest.

Recreation — America's beaches have twice as many visitors annually (more than 2 billion) as all of America's national parks combined. The combined revenue from beaches and beach-related U.S. tourism is \$1.3 trillion, with \$124 billion in annual taxes going to all levels of government.

So how do you get these bragging rights? Go to the ASBPA website at asbpa.org, click

on "About Us," and then on "Awards." This will take you to the page with the application for the Best Restored Beach Award.

In general, The review committee is looking for the following:

1. Nominator's contact information.
2. The name and contact information for the nominee's public relations specialist who will be coordinating with the media for press releases, etc.
3. The name of the project manager, design engineer, and the dredge contractor who constructed the project.
4. Project description (whether or not it is a federal project, sponsors, designers, engineers, location, length, dates and volumes of nourishment material for each nourishment episode and dates of nourishments, obstacles overcome, success of project).
5. At least one professional quality color photograph of the restored beach with release for use (tourist development councils and local resorts are good sources for photos of this quality).
6. Project locator map.
7. Before and after restoration photographs.

8. A statement about why you consider this beach a best restored beach in the United States. (It is important to let the award reviewers know how the restoration project was a benefit to the community, storm damage protection, habitat restoration, recreation, or other.)

9. If available, include beach nourishment data for your current project, and historic beach nourishments, to include volume (cubic yards), cost, and length of shoreline restored. Your project will be added to our online geodatabase (<https://gim2.aptim.com/ASBPANationwideRenourishment/>) which tracks restored beaches and their history from around the U.S.

To meet submission deadlines, all nominations must be sent electronically to Bestrestoredbeach@asbpa.org by April 6, 2018. Winners will be notified by early May prior to the Memorial Day announcement of this year's winners.

Show ASBPA your beach through your eyes to see the pride you have in your coastline. It just might make you and your beach a winner.

If you are missing "The 'Func' in Dysfunctional" articles, join the Beach Triton Group on FB where there's always a story

Happy Birthday!
Fran Griffin
March 4

Happy Birthday!
Leah Heinrich
March 5

Happy Birthday!
Shirley Adams
March 6

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NURSE ON THE BEACH

By: Connie Ward, MSN, RN

Do you have irritable bowel syndrome (IBS)? Let's see!

Do you have?

- Pain or cramping in your belly area? (Muscle contractions or spasms in intestines).
- Diarrhea or constipation (one, then the other)?
- Changes in how often you have bowel movements?
- Changes in how your stool looks?
- Bloating?
- Passing gas often?
- Mucus in your stool?

IBS symptoms may come and go, or may be ongoing. When you are having symptoms, it is called a flare-up. These symptoms can also be signs of other digestive conditions. Talk to your care provider.

If you have IBS, your digestive system reacts too strongly to triggers that don't bother most people.

These triggers include:

- Certain foods and drinks
- Large meals
- Stress
- Menstrual cycle for women

Go to healthyadvice.com/IBS record to track your symptoms over time and to get the best care.

The treatment for IBS is to get relief from symptoms and prevent flare-ups. Your care provider will work with you on a treatment plan.

- Anticholinergic medications (also called antispasmodics) to help control bowel spasms.
- Chloride channel activators that act by increasing fluid in the intestines to help move stool.
- Antidepressants may help IBS symptoms due to stress.
- Antidiarrheal medications to prevent diarrhea.
- Laxatives and help with constipation. However, using laxatives can become addictive.
- Probiotics (yogurt) provides good bacteria back into the intestines.

Research shows that eating yogurt containing certain types of probiotics can help with IBS symptoms.

In the meantime, reduce stress if possible, eat smaller meals, drink enough fluids, eat slowly, eat more fiber (oats, barley, beans, peas, flaxseed, pears, apples, figs, oranges, blueberries, raspberries, and prunes), exercise, and avoid trigger foods that bring on the symptoms.

See you next month for more health tips! Wear your sunblock every day! Spring is almost here!

Editor's Note: A very special thank you to Nurse Connie for her informative article contributions to The Beach Triton for over 18 years. Sincere thanks for your continued support and dedication to this mom and pop local newspaper.

Anton Nelsen

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Mack Hall

Coast Guard interdicts lancha crew illegally fishing US waters

The squabbling and politics began before the first competition of this year's purported Olympics (which are not on Mount Olympus at all).

A male American athlete is reportedly suffering a wall-eyed hissy-fit because a woman will carry the national flag in the processional march and he won't. After a tie vote the issue was decided by a coin toss. In an anti-social media posting of presidential dignity the male athlete said the coin toss was dishonorable.

The North Koreans will be permitted to compete in the games in South Korea, and South Koreans despise the U.S.A. as much as the Norks do. Don't expect a tribute to the thousands of Americans who died protecting ungrateful South Korea.

The Korean peninsula is, well, Korean, divided in the middle between Koreans who don't like each other except when they do, and then they both hate Americans. Let the Koreans sort it all out. Further, Chinese imperialists are strutting around in the area with their shiny new navy, so the Koreans should talk them into choosing sides and paying for the privilege, instead of our depleted Navy and Air Force. There are precedents - no American seems to miss funding bases in Viet-Nam and the Philippines.

The Koreans have promised to stop selling dog meat for the duration of the Olympics. How nice. Dachshunds will be off the menu for a month. If Charles Schultz's

Peanuts is printed in the newspapers in Korea, the appropriate and of course respectful cultural adaptation would be to have Charlie Brown, Lucy, and the other kids slaughter, dismember, and barbecue Snoopy.

According to <http://koreandogs.org/> (I do not know how reliable this site is, but other sites concur), Koreans, north and south, prepare pooches for supper with the little things being "electrocuted, hanged, beaten, have their throats slashed, or are boiled or burnt to death."

Just imagine a television cooking show in the Korea: "Today, folks, we're going to take this adorable little beagle with the cute, waggly tail and the big trusting eyes, put him through the blender, and then braise the beagle bits to a nice golden brown..."

The mascot for the Korean Winter Olympics is the Korean white tiger. Perhaps after the games he, too, will be eaten.

Another public relations issue and plumbing challenge at the Korean Olympics is the norovirus is spreading among staffers and possibly competitors. Norovirus, as you remember, is a Latin medical term which means "puking your guts up."

The source of the current strain is unknown. Perhaps the puppies weren't cooked properly.

Oh, yes, let us all be enlightened by the spirit of the Olympics.

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas — Recently Coast Guard law enforcement crews detected and interdicted a Mexican lancha boat crew engaged in illegally fishing in federal waters off southern Texas.

Coast Guard crews stopped one lancha with a total of four Mexican fishermen engaged in illegal fishing. Longline gear, 20 sharks and 60 red snapper fish were identified onboard the lancha prior to it sinking. The Mexican fishermen were detained and transferred to border enforcement agents for processing.

"Illegal fishing by Mexican lanchas poses significant harmful impacts to the sustainment of the red snapper species in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone," said Capt. Tony Hahn, Sector/Air Station Corpus Christi commander. "We will continue to aggressively work to deter and interdict all illicit maritime activity while protecting and preserving U.S. sovereignty."

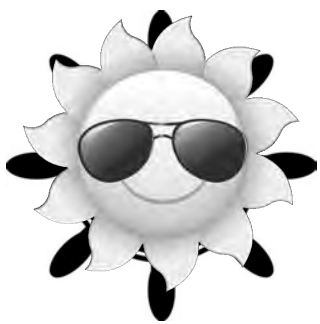
A lancha is a fishing boat used by Mexican fishermen that is approximately 20-30 feet long with a slender profile, typically has one outboard motor, and is capable of traveling at speeds exceeding 30 mph. Lanchas are frequently used to transport illegal narcotics to the U.S. and fish illegally in the United States' Exclusive Economic Zone near the U.S.-Mexico border in the Gulf of Mexico.

Coast Guard Sector/Air Station Corpus Christi has detected 66 lanchas, 18 of which were interdicted, that were north of the U.S.-Mexico Maritime Border since Oct. 1, 2017.

If you witness suspicious activity or illegal fishing in state waters (out to 9 miles offshore), please contact the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's "Operation Game Thief" at 1-800-792-GAME (4263). For all suspicious activity or illegal fishing occurring in federal waters (out to 200 miles offshore), please contact the U.S. Coast Guard at 361-939-6393.



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Billy Graham

Mack Hall

We had been having a large time this year at the Eagles. Between the Superbowl Party, Mardi Gras, and the beginning of NASCAR, we have been very busy. We now have a NASCAR Pot for the Sunday race and a race watching party for the Sunday race. Our Dart night is still going strong, as are our Saturday night pool Tournament and Sunday night 9 ball tournament. We are still providing lunches on most Saturdays but will not on March 10 to support the Port Volunteer Fire Department 48th Annual Oyster Supper. We encourage everyone down here that day to go buy at least one plate. They are a great group that serves our community well and they did an awful lot of help those affected by Harvey on the mainland.

Mardi Gras was a great weekend for us. We want to thank

everyone who came out and enjoyed our Crazy Hat Party Friday night and our band on Saturday. We especially would like to thank the Lighthouse Krewe for showing up for both events. It made it quite a festive weekend.

As the weather starts to get back to what we are used to down here, we are hoping to have some more events in our downstairs area. So please keep an eye (and an ear) out for us.

For any of the golfers down here, the bi-annual East Texas v. the Ranch Ryderish cup is going to be Saturday, April 14, with a dinner at the Eagles the night before.

I don't know about y'all, but we at the Eagles, are ready for Spring!

Bill Agnew
Worthy President
Sandpiper Aerie 3719

An apparently common 16th century saying (it is credited both to St. Thomas More and to Bloody Elizabeth) was "I have no window with which to look into another man's soul." This is a metaphorical restatement of an obvious and essential Christian truth: we cannot and dare not presume to determine whether someone else is saved or unsaved. Most of us have enough challenges in watching out for ourselves in that regard.

And still, when one considers Billy Graham's life and work, one concludes that here indeed was a genuinely holy man.

He was not my style and I would walk miles to avoid being crowded into a stadium with thousands of other people for any purpose, and yet how good it is to know that Billy Graham prayed for all of us every day.

Billy Graham was an ordained minister who preferred to be called Billy, not reverend or pastor. He never owned a Rolex, a jet plane, a yacht, or a mansion (he knew about that eternal Mansion), and never wintered in St. Tropez or summered in Cannes.

Some foolish things have been said about Billy Graham – that he was rich, for instance. He could have been. But he always insisted on constant audits and charitable distribution of the offerings received during his crusades.

Some rather vacuous young persons reading the news for the telescreen have said that Billy Graham was "the Protestant pope." The poor dears obviously don't know the Reformation tradition from that famous shoe polish.

Others have babbled that Billy Graham was "America's pastor." Such a title is alien both to the First Amendment and to the character of the man, who would have laughed away such a pompous title.

Still others have criticized Billy Graham for being anti-Catholic. Perhaps someday we will be permitted to ask him and his friend Saint John Paul II about that.

Billy Graham was said to have been an advisor to the presidents, but there is little evidence (even given that bit about a window into the soul) that they much heeded his pastoral counseling.

Billy Graham was a Southern Baptist minister who went about his ministry with dignity and modesty. He did not start his own religion, give titles to his family members, or found a dynasty. He was the very model of Chaucer's Parsoun, and so was as pleased to meet with the Queen and with the Bishop of Rome in exactly the same way as he would have been pleased to meet with you or me.

Well, Billy Graham is gone now, but we remain blessed because he was here, and he cared for all of us.

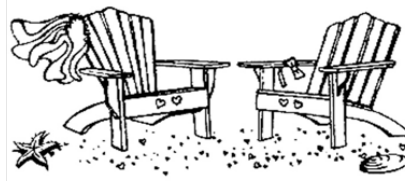
"Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and make perpetual Light to shine upon him."



The Beach Bum says I talk to myself, because there are times I need expert advice.

The Beach Bum says I don't need anger management. I need people to stop ticking me off.

The Beach Bum says The biggest lie I tell myself is, "I don't need to write that down. I'll remember it."



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Big Thicket National Preserve Announces 2018 Spring & Summer Ranger-led Program Schedule

KOUNTZE, Texas, March 1, 2018– The staff of Big Thicket National Preserve invites you to explore the thicket by taking advantage the many ranger-led programs being offered this winter season.

From canoe trips on Village Creek to full moon hikes and special summertime youth programs, park rangers will offer a variety of free programs. Some programs require participants to pre-register. Be sure to consult the 2018 Spring & Summer – Ranger-led Program Schedule for details. Additional information on all our public programs is also available on our website at <https://www.nps.gov/bith/planyourvisit/calendar.htm> , or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/BigThicketNPS.

Big Thicket National Preserve is located in southeast Texas, near the city Beaumont and 75 miles northeast of Houston. The preserve consists of nine land units and six water corridors encompassing more than 113,000 acres. The Big Thicket, often referred to as a “biological crossroads,” is a transition zone between four distinct vegetation types – the moist eastern hardwood forest, the southwestern desert, the southeastern swamp, and the central prairies. Species from all of these different vegetation types come together in the thicket, exhibiting a variety of vegetation and wildlife that has received national interest.

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**Bay Vue United Methodist
Church Lenten Luncheons**

Bay Vue United Methodist Church is leading up to the Easter Celebration with two Lenten Luncheons. Luncheons are scheduled for March 14 and March 21 at 11:30 AM in Fellowship Hall. Fill up with tantalizing tacos on March 14 and delectable pastas on March 21. Save some room for desserts! Meals are free, however, donations are always welcome.

Following these splendid repasts will be inspirational speakers. Laurie Heath will share her journey of faith with Jesus Christ on March 14. She is part of a pastoral team at The Friends Church in Danbury, TX. Laurie is a talented musician and artist who served with Pastor Valerie Hudson on a contemporary praise team in Angleton where she lives with her husband Curtis. Her message will both teach and inspire.

March 21 brings the return of ever popular Pastor WC Hall. WC was the first pastor of Bay Vue UMC when he was a student at SMU in the 1960s. WC has served in churches all over Texas, published several books about his activities, and although retired, still substitutes at church services when needed. His lessons of love are both humorous and uplifting.

So, come fill your plates with scrumptious food and fill your souls with spiritual words from scintillating speakers!



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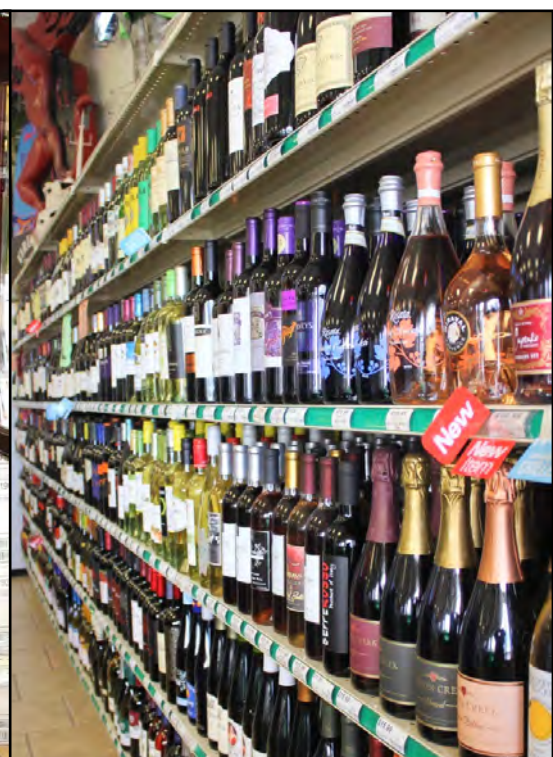
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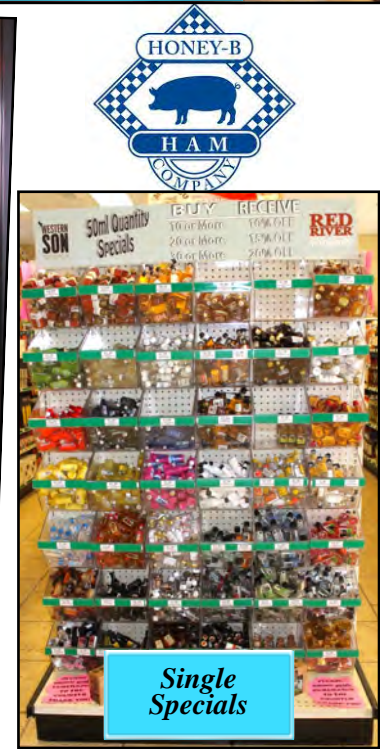
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Vegetable*



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Bar Supplies

Survivors can still get help as Immediate Disaster Case Management (IDCM) program ends.

Survivors can call the IDCM hotline at 855-742-5989 through March 13. When IDCM ends, the toll free number will change to reflect the new phone numbers for Disaster Case Management Program agencies.

Survivors can also call 211 for assistance.

Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) in Angleton, Texas remains open to help survivors.

The center is located at Central Brazoria County Business Park, 4005 Technology Road, Angleton, TX 77515.

Hours of operation are 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. At DRCs survivors can meet with recovery specialists from the U.S. Small Business Administration, the state, FEMA and other agencies to talk about assistance, ask questions and get help filing appeals.

Direct Housing

The housing mission is state-administered and locally managed. The State of Texas and local officials are leading the way in finding new solutions to help Texans impacted by Hurricane Harvey. The federal government is providing technical assistance and financial support.

As of March 2:

2,146 housed through the direct housing program

Direct Housing Maintenance Hotline: Survivors living in mobile homes and travel trailers provided by the GLO/FEMA Direct Housing program may call 877-503-6053 for assistance

The Partial Repair and Essential Power Program (PREPS) provides temporary repairs, such as water and power restoration, allowing homeowners to remain in their homes as they complete permanent repairs to their homes. To learn more, call: 888-610-1622, Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.-7 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

Individuals & Households Program (IHP)

Individuals and families in 41 counties are eligible for federal disaster assistance through IHP.

As of March 1:

Survivors have received more than \$13.3 billion in state and federal disaster assistance

Individuals and Households Program (IHP) approved: \$1.57 billion (+ \$778,112.66 from previous day)

Housing Assistance (HA) approved: \$1.18 billion (+ \$778,112.66 from previous day)

Other Needs Assistance (ONA) approved: \$384.6 million (no change from previous day)

Total applications approved: 371,015, an eligibility rate of 41 percent (+ 43 from previous day)

FEMA inspections completed: 602,961 (+ 157 from previous day)

Total DRC visits: 268,429 (+ 390 from previous day)

Transitional Sheltering Assistance (TSA) As of March 2:

Total TSA applicants checked in: 7,649 (+ 6 from previous day)

Total TSA rooms occupied: 8,891 (- 30 from previous day)

Total hotels utilized: 1,044 (- 1 from previous day)

Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs)

DRCs are one-stop shops for survivors seeking face-to-face help from state and federal agencies. Reasonable accommodations are made for survivors with disabilities or access and functional needs. Need help? Just ask.

For more information about PA funding, visit: fema.gov/public-assistance-policy-and-guidance.

To find the nearest DRC visit: fema.gov/drc, or text DRC along with a zip code to 43362 (4FEMA).

As of March 2, there are 15 DRCs open in the following 9 counties to help survivors: Aransas (1), Brazoria (2), Galveston (2), Harris (4), Jefferson (2), Montgomery (1), Nueces (1), Orange (1) and San Patricio (1).

Small Business Administration (SBA)

SBA low-interest long-term disaster loans are the number one federal resource for recovery funding and offer an affordable way for individuals and businesses to rebuild and recover.

As of March 1:

Total SBA applications received: 109,477 (+39 from previous day)

Total SBA loans approved for businesses and homeowners: \$3.2 billion (+\$2.8 million from previous day) National Flood Insurance Program As of March 1:

91,282 policyholders have filed flood insurance claims in Texas NFIP has paid \$8.5 billion for Harvey claims in Texas

Find information on repairing and rebuilding at fema.gov/Texas-disaster-mitigation.

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Letters to the Editor:

Ken Clark is a Red Flag

Red Flags. Why don't we always heed to the warning signs? The mortgage crisis of the 2000's, The Great Depression of 1929, the 1981 Recession, and in 2017-2018 the 3 candidates that felt it was necessary to run against a 20 year career politician, Ken Clark. Each has warning signs. Ken Clark: a twist of words, a slight of hand, a much lower assessed value of his large homestead compared to others in Galveston County (galvestoncad.org). Ken Clark, a savvy politician mentored by Steve Stockman (Google his indictment), who "Is working for you" (Steve Stockman). Interesting campaign slogan, considering his former executive assistant pleaded no contest to illegally using county computers, on county time, to do opposition research and keep records for Ken Clarks PAC. The investigation found that the political action group paid Ken Clark's political consulting firm \$44,000, most of what the PAC had raised (Harvey Rice, Houston Chronicle 7/1/14). Not all career politicians become crafty in self servient ways, but unfortunately some do. This is Galveston County's most current Red Flag. Heed to the warning signs. It is time for change in the Precinct 4 County Commissioner position, vote for Michelle Hatmaker.

Art Sanchez
Galveston, TX
713-419-0004

THE Precinct 4 Galveston County Commissioner Candidate

I support Michelle Hatmaker, candidate for Precinct 4 County Commissioner. She is a leader with vision, strength, and resilience. I have observed the strength of a woman flourish over the years. Since the passing of her husband in 2000 she has stepped in to successfully operate multiple businesses, as well as continue to raise a family. I have seen her forge through the most trying time of her life, the passing of a son at the age of 21. I watched her rebuild after Hurricane Ike. Her proactiveness of operating a shelter during Hurricane Harvey and opening the doors of her home to flood victims. She has a strength of not allowing life circumstances to suppress her desire to succeed. She does this with honesty, integrity, and selflessness. It amazes me to continue to observe her personal and public growth. Over the years she has become a student of understanding Galveston County. Her love for our County has cultivated a vision and understanding of how to grow/protect it in a positive way. Yes, I may be partial to whom I support, but I also have an understanding of the strength, intelligence, integrity, and resilience of this candidate, my Mother.

To good health,
Daniel Hatmaker, NP-C, DC

"Ken Clark Is Not Working For You"

After being in office many years, some elected officials forget who they are working for. This is called the incumbency syndrome, where politicians identify more with lobbyist than voters and forget that government exists to serve the people – not vice versa. The following are some examples of how you can tell when an elected official (such as Galveston County Precinct 4 Commissioner, Ken Clark) has been in office too long.

On April 11, 2017 at a meeting of Galveston County Commissioners Court, Ken Clark sided with the lone Democrat seated on the court to defeat a resolution calling for property tax reform (proposed by the Republican leadership in Austin). The battle lines over property tax reform were intensely partisan with Democrats joining big government lobbyist against the Republican proposals. During the last legislative session, fiscal conservatives called for support from local leaders to help Governor Abbott and Republicans push these reforms through the House and Senate in Austin. Locally, Commissioners Giusti and Apffel answered the call and placed a resolution on the agenda supporting tax reform. When the time came to vote, Ken Clark turned his back on the Republican Party and taxpayers when he voted "NO" – siding with Democrats and big government lobbyists.

In a real insult to taxpayers, Clark brought this resolution back to Commissioners Court on the last day of the special legislative session (when it was obviously too late for anyone at the Capitol to even receive it before law makers went home). Was this just Clark's strange sense of humor or was this a clumsy effort to deceive voters and give a tricky politician an opportunity (if needed) to say he voted against the resolution before he voted for it – like John Kerry did in a famous debate many years ago. (Of course John Kerry lost that election.)

On another occasion, October 23, 2017, in a Commissioners' Court hearing, Ken Clark cast the deciding vote to reject disaster reappraisal for property owners flooded by the torrent of rain from Hurricane Harvey. This vote came after the county auditor testified the rainy day (reserve) fund had plenty of money to cover all cost for the disaster reappraisal including the anticipated drop in revenue. Also, the Tax Assessor testified that approving disaster reappraisal in Commissioners Court would not impact any of the school districts, cities, or other governmental entities. For another taxing entity to be included in disaster reappraisal it would be necessary for that governing body to request the Chief Appraiser include that taxing unit in the CAD's reappraisal of properties.

Residents of League City, Friendswood, and Dickinson can be assured that my position on these issues is exactly opposite of Ken Clark's. I would vote for property tax reform and stand with fiscally conservative Republicans in Austin and I would vote for disaster reappraisal to provide a fair reduction of 2017 appraised values for flood damaged homes and businesses. And if elected, I will never forget who I'm working for.

Sincerely, Jim Bulgier



At the candidate forum in League City (February 7th) Mark Henry accused me of causing political races in Galveston County to be unusually bitter and personal. This was one of many factually inaccurate statements.

Henry said \$10 million in bond funds were given to Harris County to fix Gum Bayou, which was wrong. Gum Bayou is on the eastern side of Dickinson not far from Hwy 146 – certainly not in Harris County. If Henry would have been paying attention to flood control issues in 2016 (when a report was presented that warned failure to improve the flow of Gum and Dickinson Bayous would result in flooding that would adversely impact citizens in surrounding areas), he would have known where this bayou was located.

As for the \$10 million given to Harris County, our bond money was used to purchase land south of Beltway 8 where HC Flood Control District is digging detention areas to protect Scarsdale and other neighborhoods near Mud Gully. Henry did not know enough about what was going on with these flood projects to say, 'the hope was that relieving pressure on Mud Gully may help reduce the height of flood waters in Clear Creek a few inches.' Another obvious flub.

Henry also tried to explain his vote against disaster reappraisal by saying he alone determined the cost would be more than what the Galveston Central Appraisal District (GCAD) Chief Appraiser had testified. Therefore he was opposing any effort to fairly appraise 2017 property values. The Chief Appraiser said the cost would be \$22 per parcel for each storm damaged property (estimated to be 20,000 parcels – not every property in Galveston County as Henry claimed). Further, he said the result of reappraisals would have only resulted in a credit on 2018 tax bills – also untrue. Refund checks would have been issued immediately after the reappraisal process.

Then Henry said he voted for a plan proposed by the Tax Assessor that would only cost a \$1 per parcel – again another falsehood. The Tax Assessor said the former Chief Appraiser (Ken Wright) quoted a cost for disaster reappraisal after Ike (2008) would cost somewhere from \$1 to \$5 per parcel when arguing that Tommy Watson's \$22/parcel fee was inflated. Despite her attempts to clarify his misstatements, he has continued to promote this misrepresentation as factual.

Henry never explained his charges against me and avoided any reference to his cronies Greg Enos (a Democrat supporter and one of Henry's divorce attorneys) and Shawn Christopher Phillips (aka. Red State PAC) who are the real merchants of smear and personal attacks in this election.

Maybe my support of Judge Cox has been enough to earn this accusation from Henry; but we will likely never know for sure. What I do know is that he has continued to misrepresent the truth and when he doesn't like the dialogue he attacks and threatens yet another lawsuit or alleges criminal conduct. Maybe that's why the number of lawsuits in the county has tripled.

Don Johnson
Candidate for County Judge



Elder Fraud

Law Enforcement Action Aimed at Those Who Victimize Senior Citizens

A coordinated law enforcement action aimed at those who prey on senior citizens has resulted in charges against more than 250 subjects who collectively victimized more than one million mostly elderly Americans.

"The Justice Department and its partners are taking unprecedented, coordinated action to protect elderly Americans from financial threats, both foreign and domestic," said Attorney General Jeff Sessions. "Today's actions send a clear message. We will hold perpetrators of elder fraud schemes accountable wherever they are."

Using a variety of scams, criminals charged in the nationwide sweep caused losses of more than \$600 million. The cases, which spanned the globe and claimed victims in every U.S. state, include criminal, civil, and forfeiture actions and were coordinated through local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and international partners.

Elder fraud "is a serious and growing threat," said David Bowdich, acting deputy director of the FBI, who attended a press conference at the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., with other federal law enforcement partners to announce the results of the nationwide sweep and to encourage victims to come forward.

Last year, the FBI opened more than 200 financial crime cases that involved elderly victims, Bowdich said. The investigations covered a range of crimes, from investment frauds to reverse mortgage scams. Often, the cases involved "outright theft by people the victim should have been able to trust, to include their attorneys, financial advisers, and, even more egregious, their guardians and caregivers."

"These fraudsters view our seniors as prime targets."

Fraud schemes against the elderly also include a variety of mass mailing and telemarketing frauds such as lottery phone scams, romance scams,

grandparent scams, IRS imposter schemes, and others. Many of these schemes are perpetrated by criminals outside the United States. All of the schemes have one goal: to trick and deceive senior citizens into turning over their hard-earned savings.

"These fraudsters view our seniors as prime targets," Bowdich said. Many senior citizens have large nest eggs saved over decades. At the same time, they may not be technologically savvy. The scammers also know that elderly victims often don't report being victimized either because they feel guilty or embarrassed, "or because they don't even realize they are being scammed," Bowdich explained.

Other agencies participating in today's announcement included the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and the Federal Trade Commission, which actively investigate elder fraud, and, like the FBI, offer educational material and other resources to senior citizens so they can become more aware of the threat.

"While criminals see the elderly as trusting people with money," Bowdich explained, "we see them as national treasures. The elderly are the cornerstone of this country. Many of them sacrificed for their families ... for their nation." He added, "We understand how devastating a fraudulent scheme against elderly victims can be, not just financially, but emotionally, mentally, and even physically."

Sessions and others at the press conference—including a woman whose elderly grandmother committed suicide after losing her life savings to scammers—encouraged senior citizens and their caregivers to report elder fraud to the authorities so that these "despicable con artists" can be brought to justice. "I hope that no victim of fraud feels ashamed," Sessions said. "This can happen to anyone."

To report elder fraud to the FBI, visit your local FBI office, call 1-800-CALL FBI (225-5324), or file a complaint online at the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center at www.ic3.gov.

The "Func" in Dysfunctional

Jan Kent

I think it's great if you are versatile, trying new things, thinking outside the box and living your life; as long as it is legal and moral. If you need a definition of legal and moral, memorize the Ten Commandments, that pretty much sums it up.

Being young can excuse you from knowledge and learning experiences, you know, the things you do when you haven't thought it completely through and then realizing, "What the heck have I gotten myself into?"

The morning of my eighteenth birthday I boarded a plane with a one way ticket to Hawaii. I had never flown before, hadn't looked over a map for locations, and had a minimal amount of money. I didn't know squat, just knew I was out of here.

We departed Texas at 8 a.m. and arrived in Hawaii at noon after stopping in Los Angeles and picking up a group of California surfers who were spending their summer riding the waves around Oahu in the warm, clear blue waters.

Talk about ignorance, I should not have been turned loose with such minimal knowledge. But, I did possess common sense.

As we circled the islands for landing at the Honolulu airport, my friend, Claudia, said, "Quick, take a picture of Diamond Head, it's on your side of the plane."

I starting snapping pictures out the window of the plane without a clue as to what "Diamond Head" was, hoping that somehow I took a picture of whatever she was talking about.

Dumb, dumb, dumb.

We landed, retrieved our luggage, and flagged a taxi. Claudia had a place to stay already, but I was going to need a room somewhere.

We went by the house where she had rented a room to look it over and figure out the plan, like there was one.

The house had locks on the cabinets because these young ladies decided everyone should have their own cabinet of food and not to share with each other, living a single life in a house with multiple people, everyone for themselves.

Claudia was about three years older than me and at this point she decided we needed to get an apartment for ourselves, no locked shelves.

We wandered into the Waikiki area and found a studio apartment suitable to us. We immediately rented the small habitat and were off to the grocery store to stock up on groceries and have ourselves settled into an area called "The Jungle".

THE JUNGLE, dumb, dumb, dumb. Not like it was located in an area with heavy foliage and the beauty of tropical growth surrounding your habitat, more like the high crime area of the island, oh, dumb, dumb, dumb.

After renting the bungalow and the trip to the grocery store, I have no funds left until I find a job. Ignorance is not always bliss.

So, here I am living in paradise, 3 blocks from Waikiki, without a penny to my name, 18 years old and no way home.

Ends up our new neighbors are the California surfers we met on the plane, that's a good thing.

I did not realize jobs are few for an 18 year old living alone without any special training. Dumb, dumb, dumb.

But, I did survive. I survived because I was determined to find a job and prove people wrong and because I was hungry.

I think it was a lesson a lot of people need to learn today; if you are hungry, you work. Simple and not so dumb.

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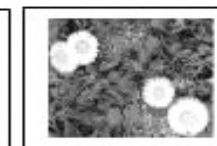
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BOLIVAR BEACH BLOOMERS NEWS BY VICKIE GOSS

Wow what a winter we have had so far! I missed the last weather event again as I was on my trip to Moriba Town, Sierra Leone. My hubby covered and put a light on my precious plants but I have been told the temp plummeted down to 10 degrees and I am doubtful they survived. I came home with the flu so I haven't felt like making the rounds.

Ange has some great tips below for all of your plant needs, read them she really knows how to help our pretty's, it may work or it may not time will tell.

The next Bolivar Beach Bloomers meeting will be Wednesday February 7, Bolivar Beach Bloomers meetings are always the 1st Wednesday of each month 10:30am at the Joe Faggard Community Center, 1750 Highway 87, Crystal Beach. All are welcome and encouraged to come check us out!

You may be interested in the following links:

Bolivar Beach Bloomers <https://www.facebook.com/groups/677347662377504/>

The Beautiful Monarch Butterfly <https://www.facebook.com/groups/572683816192386/>

The Lazy Gardener Newsletter <http://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/email.jsp?m=1112503958110>

Monthly Quote: **"Flowers really do intoxicate me."** ~Vita Sackville-West

Ange's Corner Monthly Tip:

What a winter and there could be more to come! Our tropicals have taken a serious hit but don't give up on them too soon. Some could come back from the ground as late as June/July. We know they are a gamble in our SEMI-tropical climate. They offer so much beauty they deserve patience when our winter hasn't been kind.

There is a gardening rule about not cutting back winter damage until spring. The point is cutting back can trigger new growth that will be most vulnerable in another freeze event. I break the rule with tropicals only. Perennial shrubs have acclimated to go dormant in winter while tropicals should never experience that assault in their native environment. They don't have the protection of a dormant mode. Tropicals WILL attempt to produce new foliage before winter threat is over. I don't want my tropicals to waste energy on branches that are beyond recovery so I break the rule and do some snipping right after a freeze. I snip obviously dead ends and any branches that needed shaping anyway. If your hibiscus was too large or spindly you can cut it back hard. Yes, new growth will be vulnerable but I want the root system to have less to support above ground. Hope for no more freeze!

For perennial shrubs that should NOT be cut back until spring, there is a method to determine where to cut, WHEN THE TIME COMES. Scratch the bark to find GREEN under the surface. Cut off the part that doesn't have green. If a smaller, tighter look is desired go ahead and cut lower into the green. If a shrub would benefit from pruning spring would be the best time.

Our coastal winds can cause plants to look out of balance. Sometimes I go with the look; most of the time I compensate with pruning. A common mistake in pruning is to not cut the branch low enough. Most shrubs/trees will branch out at the cut. It is important to trace the limb to be cut all the way back to where it first branches from the main plant and cut there. Try to imagine the limb branching into several limbs and make sure there will be space without crowding other branches. I'm not a fan of a formally pruned hedge (that would be HIGH MAINTENANCE) but that look will be lower maintenance if some branches are traced back for cutting inside the desired shape.

Another rule for pruning is to take out one of two limbs that are growing parallel. Citrus trees are notorious for this growth habit. With young trees I take out all branches that are growing toward the ground. I want the tree's energy going toward upward branches. Eventually, as the limbs get bigger,

they will arch toward the ground. Sometimes if a young limb is arching too soon I may cut it where it starts arching down or wherever it will achieve the best balance after the cut branches out.

Most purchased fruit trees have been grafted onto a root stock. Sometimes a branch will shoot out of the root stock and should always be removed immediately. It will not produce fruit and takes energy away from the fruit producing branches. When pruning severely damaged fruit trees be careful to not cut all the way down to the root stock!

We don't know if cold on the coast is a new normal for us. I typically plant tropicals together, taking advantage of 'protected' sunny areas. This fall I've started to place some evergreen shrubs in with tropicals. Evergreens can provide a little windbreak, some cold protection in a mild event and maintain signs of life when we humans need it most. I'm thinking about what plants would be most appropriate. I've started with *loropedalum*. It blooms and has interesting foliage year round; worthy of supplementing vulnerable tropicals.

A couple months to go. We and most of our tropicals are gonna survive!



Ange Scheibel

Texas Master Naturalist
Galveston Bay Area Chapter
angelbus80@hotmail.com

Update on Hwy 87

We learned the following:

Update on Raising - First 2 miles from Gilchrist towards High Island will be raised average about 12 inches. Rest of the roadway towards High Island will be raised average about 22 inches.

Held Up During Harvey? - During Hurricane Harvey it is our understanding from the Galveston EOC which was in contact with emergency personal on the Peninsula that SH 87 was never under water and had no tidal impacts from the hurricane.

Improvements to Keep from flooding currently? - the barriers that are in place currently are the only protection. They are in place on actual TxDOT right-of-way and we were given permission to place them temporarily by the General Land Office.

Surge Protectors replaced/improved? - Post Harvey additional crews were sent to Houston. Some of these crews back filled the areas with sand. With the directions from the Governor's Office to assist cities with debris cleanup this office has worked on that issue up to December 14, 2017 when we completed the second round of cleanup for the City of Hitchcock then straight into winter weather.

Environmental Study? - Progressing well, expected to be cleared by May, 2018

Project going to bid? - Letting in May, 2018

Construction to begin? - Begin Construction July 2018

If you have any other questions, comments, or concerns, please let me know and we will have them addressed. Thanks.

W. Seth Collins

Policy & Constituent Advisor

**Office of Commissioner Darrell A. Appfel, Precinct 1
(409) 770-5544 - seth.collins@co.galveston.tx.us**

Peninsula Sports Park Update

Leslie Lowe

In one year PSP has grown to 9 teams!

2 T-Ball, 3 Sluggers, 3 Majors, and 1 Dixie League team team.

8 of the teams play exclusively in Bolivar, and 1 team coached by Delino Comeaux for the last 5 years, plays here and in Winnie in the Chambers County Dixie League.

Our Opening Day is March 24. We have a full day of games, door prizes, BBQ, and entertainment that day. Our fundraisers and donations have built a beautiful ballpark.

Texas Crabfest Charities donated a state of the art LED Scoreboard last year and this year they have donated a new building for a Concession Stand on which there will be a Texas Crab Festival mural painted by local artists.

This year Jaime Botello will construct several picnic tables for the park, which Third Coast Internet has generously agreed to pay for the lumber.

We are thankful to have such generous locals who help us provide this opportunity for our kids.

PSP is also open for anyone who may want to do tournaments, league ball, or benefits. It's built to Pony League specs so it's large enough for youth or adult games. Anyone may schedule thru me at 409-429-0980.

Dress up your JEEP, GOLF CART, and YOURSELF. Join us for an exciting day of "Crawling" to some of Crystal Beach's most popular spots by way of a BEACH PARADE.

Wicked Off-Road

SPRINGTIME Watermelon Crawl

Benefitting Peninsula Sports Park

CALLING ALL Golf Carts & Jeeps

SATURDAY APRIL 7, 2018

Prizes for ● Best Decorated Vehicles ● Best Costumes ● Watermelon Themed Challenges ● People's Choice ●

Early registration (received by April 1) \$25 guaranteed T-Shirt & Goody Bag
Registration after April 1 not guaranteed T-Shirt.

T-Shirts - Koozie - Watermelon Challenge Entry - Door Prize Ticket

For more info follow Peninsula Sports Park on FB or call Leslie Lowe at 409-429-0980
Register online at www.signmeup.com Check-in begins 9:30 @ Jose's Steakhouse, parade leaves @ 11am.
Parade will end at Stingaree with entertainment, raffles, door prizes and awards.

2018 Baseball Opening Day

Bolivar Baseball Peninsula Sports Park

OPENING DAY 2018

March 24
The fun begins at 10
Exciting games all day

T-Ball Sluggers Major League
Fireworks at dark presented by Randy Martin of Rays Fireworks

Door Prizes Face Painting Raffles
Delicious BBQ Snow Cones

Airbrush artist for helmets/caps/tshirts
Wicked Off-Road Vehicles will be on site
PSP is located next to PEVFD

We've brought baseball BACK to Bolivar!

Happy Birthday!
Tina Harthcock
March 14

Happy Birthday!
Kathie Poulter
March 12

Happy Birthday!
Chrissy Bienvenue
March 27

Happy Birthday!
Sherry Leger
March 2

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2018 Stingaree Saltwater Slam Fishing Tournament

APRIL 28, 2018

TOURNAMENT PRESENTED BY: TEXAS MARINE
Bolivar Peninsula Lions Club Stingaree Restaurant & Marina Holtzelaw Memorial Foundation

Guaranteed Cash Prizes for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place
Individual Fee: \$100 Team of 4: \$350
Entries must be received by 4/27/18 6:00 pm
***Early entry fee discounts by 4/20/18
Individual Fee: \$75 Team of 4: \$300
Kids Hardhead Haul-In - FREE - Children 12 & under (must be accompanied by adult)

Time: Saturday, April 28, 2018 6:00am to 3:00 pm
Kids start at 8:30 am - Weigh in between 9:00-10:00 am. Awards at 10:30 a.m.

Location: Stingaree Restaurant & Marina Crystal Beach, Tx

Friday April 27th at Stingaree Down Under
6:00 pm Check In/Registration
7:00 pm Calcutta
*Appetizers will be served

Saturday April 28th at Stingaree Restaurant & Marina
12:00 pm - 3:00 pm Lunch @ Stingaree
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm Official Weigh In by Lions Club
4:00 pm Awards Ceremony and Door Prizes
8:00 pm Live music

Capt Name _____ Address _____ ph _____

Angler Name _____ Address _____

Angler Name _____ Address _____

Angler Name _____ Address _____

Capt Email 1) _____ S M L XL XXL XXXL

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Please clip & mail this completed form before April 27, 2018 w/ check payable to BPLCYSF. Mail to PO Box 2125 Crystal Beach, TX 77650. For questions contact Brenda 409-291-9092, Email: remaxonthewater@aol.com

*****!!ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE BOLIVAR PENINSULA LIONS CLUB YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP FUND!!****

The Patton Cemetery

Jay Camp

The Patton Cemetery located on "Bob's Fish Camp Road" could be the oldest in Galveston County. Some people call it "Yates Cemetery" because Milton Yates was the first known grave. Current day Bob Road is next to the Fun Spot Water Slide in Crystal Beach.

I know many stories have been written on this subject but Jan Kent wanted me to write one more so here goes.

Mr. W.T. Hawes was sent to Bolivar to survey the cemetery by the Galveston County Engineering Department in 1954. At that time six grave stones were found with names listed.

In 1880 Samuel J. Robertson bought a one hundred acre tract of land and set aside a 30 yard square tract for a cemetery. At this time four graves were already in this tract.

The first grave is that of Milton Yates. He was born in Mobile, Alabama 2 August 1812 and died 9 September 1847. His wife,

Maria Pierce, was born in 1820 in South Carolina. The couple moved to Bolivar in the 1830's but it is not clear if they were here in Bolivar before or after the Texas Revolution. He was a veteran of San Jacinto and became the first Justice of the Peace on Bolivar performing the first marriage ceremony here. The had three children born on Bolivar. Felix G. (1838, Amanda (1840) and Thomas (1845). His marker still exist.

The second buried was Robert Lyons Shaw. He was born 5 May 1829 and died 6 December 1852. His marker still exist.

Third buried was Charles R. Patton. He is the man our town was name after. I've already written about Patton, born in 1826 in Alabama and died 1 July 1872. His marker exist in broken up form.

Fourth buried was Lizzie E, Griscom. Elizabeth was born in Texas 22 April 1853. She died 2 May 1880. She was married to

M.S. Grissom who was from Pennsylvania.

Fifth buried was Johannah Abrahamson born 7 July 1834 and died here in Patton on 13 June 1902. The fourth and fifth buried have missing headstones.

the sixth and last buried was Lorene M. Blalock. Born in Walla Walla, Washington. on 27 December 1913. bootleggers thought they were going to kill her father for not cooperating with them. Baby Lorene slept in the room that was blown up at her father's hotel in Patton after he refused to be bribed to hide rum in his hotel. Her stone exists.

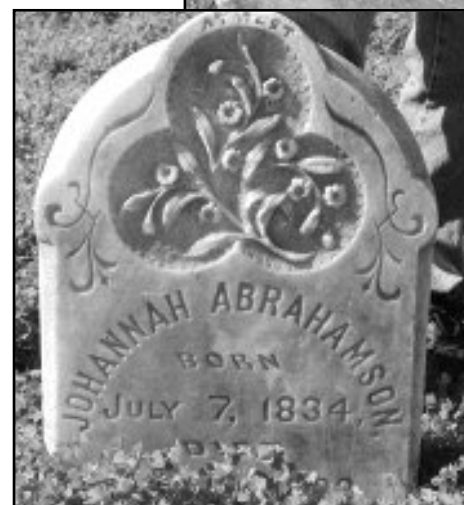
In 1897 the local school had 32 pupils, by 1902 it only had 4 pupils. the population in 1948 in Patton was only 15. With the decline in population and devastation by many hurricanes, the cemetery is now a forgotten relic of a prior age. Neglect has left it in dyer need of attention.



Yates headstone above



What is thought to be Lorene Blalock's headstone above and Johanna Abrahamson, pictured to the left.



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March 10, 2018
Noon – 8:00 P.M.**

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50/50 split the pot

Tickets:
1 for \$5.00
5 for \$20.00

Can be purchased
at oyster fry. Drawing
at 8:00 pm 3/10/2018



Happy Birthday!
Haley Comeaux
March 13



Happy Birthday!
Kate Newberry
March 1st
DIRTY 30!!!!

Mardi Gras 2018



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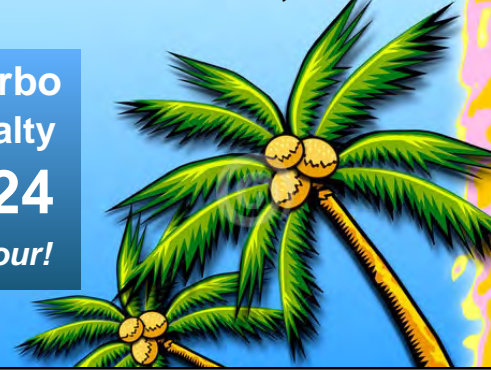
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Ladybird, Ladybird...

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Vince Brach is a semi-retired naturalist, writer, and science teacher who divides his time between Tyler, TX and his getaway on Crystal Beach. Vince earned his BS in biology from USC in Los Angeles and his Ph.D. from the University of Miami, Coral Gables. He has published over 100 articles in magazines such as *Texas Highways*, *Texas Parks & Wildlife*, and *Highlights for Children*. We hope you enjoy his monthly column for *The BeachTriton*, "The Seaside Naturalist".

Have any questions, photos, or observations about nature on the Bolivar Peninsula? Please send them to Vince at vbrach@sbcglobal.net and he'll try to answer them.

Ladybird beetles or "ladybugs" are relatively immune to the "insectophobia" of the non-naturalist. Rather than the usual perception of insect life as creepy-crawly and disgusting, the bright, shiny colors, slow movements, and harmlessness of these little beetles seem to awaken a childlike wonder in most people. In his *New Naturalist series book "Ladybirds"* (HarperCollins, 1994), British naturalist Michael Majerus writes: "Ladybirds are the first insects that most children learn to recognize. Ladybirds are colorful, unthreatening and slightly comical. Perhaps that is why they appeal to so many people. . . . (T)hey are also very interesting to biologists. . . . Ladybirds are accessible and amenable to study, and there is scope for further investigation at all levels."

The very name "ladybird" is a dedication to Our Lady, The Virgin Mary. Even non-Christian religions and cultures the world over—Jewish, Cherokee, Sanscrit, and Hindi, to name a few—have names for ladybirds that attach them to religious figures or associate them with good fortune. Many cultures have childrens' rhymes ("Ladybird, ladybird, fly away home . . .") that whimsically recount real-life events in the lives of these little beetles. For example, the familiar "Ladybird" rhyme is thought to refer to the traditional burning of the English hop vines at the end of the summer, resulting in swarms of ladybirds taking wing.

Close to 200 species of ladybird beetles (family Coccinellidae) have been recorded from Texas. They are common insects during the warm months. One species, the attractive Seaside Lady (*Naemia seriata*) is a common ladybird along the Texas coast. Adults and their strange, "cootie-like" larvae can frequently be found combing goldenrod flowers and roadside weeds for aphids and pollen. *Naemia* is more elongated than typical ladybirds and quite variable in coloration. Specimens may carry up to 22 black spots on a scarlet to pinkish background.

Like all beetles, ladybirds have complete metamorphosis with distinct egg, larva, pupa, and adult forms. Both larvae and adults of most species are active, voracious predators of aphids, scale insects, and other pests. This fact makes them most



welcome to the farmer and gardener, and has resulted in the deliberate importation of foreign ladybirds as biological controls. One species, the Australian *Vedalia* beetle (*Rodalia cardinalis*) is famous as the insect which saved the California citrus industry from the Australian Cottony Cushion Scale insect (*Icerya purchasi*). The *Vedalia* beetle, which is found occasionally in Texas, accomplished this control in just a few years after its introduction in 1888—a true success story costing only a few thousand dollars.

Sometimes the introduction of control insects produces both good and bad results. In 1988, the first naturally-sustaining colonies of the Harlequin or Asian Ladybeetle (*Harmonia axyridis*) in the southeastern United States were observed in Louisiana. A native of China and Japan, this highly-variable insect is now the commonest ladybird in most of Texas. Originally imported for aphid control on soybeans and other crops, which it performs with gusto, the Asian Ladybeetle soon earned the nickname "Halloween Ladybird" because of its tendency to overwinter in masses in people's homes in the late fall. These masses seem to have a memory of sorts and will reassemble in subsequent years, leaving stains and a noticeable odor.

Among the other "sins" of the Asian Ladybeetle are its ability to alter the taste of wines when large populations are hunting aphids on grapes. One aspect of special concern to naturalists is its tendency to replace other native ladybird species. As if that were not enough, the Asian Ladybeetle is the only ladybird that has acquired a reputation for biting people—although admittedly not very hard.

Yet, there are bright spots (pun intended) in *Harmonia's* future. Research has shown that one of its stinky defense secretions (called "harmonine") has significant antimicrobial activity for disease organisms such as the tuberculosis bacillus (*Mycobacterium tuberculosis*) and a drug-resistant strain one of the deadlier malaria parasites (*Plasmodium falciparum*). Discoveries such as these should be noted by naturalists who may someday find themselves arguing against the wanton destruction of any organism, even one that is deemed to be harmful. In the meantime, we can relax and enjoy the beautiful colors and "wind-up car" antics of the ladybird beetles as they rid our gardens of pests.

The Seaside Naturalist is sponsored by Brian and Clint Byrom at Brint Construction Co. Inc.

Friday, May 11

4:00 pm - **Festival Opens**
 6:00 pm - **Opening Ceremony**
Crenshaw Choir - National Anthem
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
 Sponsored by **Galveston Regional Chamber of Commerce & President, Gina Spagnola**
 6:15 pm - **Haley Comeaux**
 7:45 pm - **Jason Allen**
 Sponsored by **3rd Coast Internet**
 8:30 pm - **Two-Step Dance Contest**
 Sponsored by **Bolivar RV Park Coalition**
 10:00 pm - **Bag of Donuts**
 Sponsored by **Swedes Real Estate**
 12:00 Midnight - **Festival Closing**

Saturday, May 12

8:30 am - **5K/1K Fun Run**
 Sponsored by **Sweat Fitness**
 10:00 am - **Festival Opens**
 11:00 am - **Wiener Dog Races**
 Sponsored by **Maven's Clothing and Tanning Salon**
 11:00 am - **Crab Gumbo Cook Off**
 Sponsored by **Ship's Wheel**
 11:30 am - **Bris Crider**
 1:00 pm - **The Cadillacs**
 1:00 pm - **Washers Tournament**
 Sponsored by **Frontier Pest Control**
 2:00 pm - **Crab Legs Contest**
 Sponsored by **RE/MAX on the Water**
 2:30 pm - **Announcement of Cook Off Winners**
 3:15 pm - **Mayeaux and Broussard**
 5:30 pm - **David Joel**
 7:45 pm - **Shooter Jennings**
 Sponsored by **B6 Contracting**
 9:15 pm - **Live Auction**
 Sponsored by **Swedes Real Estate, Texas Custom Carts, Paradise Palapa, The Glass Tattoo Co. & Chairs By Bill**
 10:00 pm - **Jack Ingram**
 Sponsored by **The Big Store**
 12:00 Midnight - **Festival Closing**

2018 Music Headliners

FRIDAY **SATURDAY**

Jason Allen Texas Country
Bag of Donuts New Orleans Party Band
Shooter Jennings Outlaw Country
Jack Ingram Texas Country

SUNDAY

Sandy G y los Gavilanes Tejano
Scott McGill Swamp Pop

Live Music ALL WEEKEND!

Also Featuring:

The Cadillacs ★ **David Joel** ★ **Mayeux & Broussard**
Haley Comeaux ★ **Bris Crider** ★ **Bolivar's Got Talent**

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Taste & Judge Your Favorite!
CRAB GUMBO COOKOFF
 Proceeds to Benefit



Sunday, May 13

Free Mother's Day Carnations
 to the First 300 Mothers through the Gate!

Sponsored by **Forever Yours Florist**

10:00 am - **Festival Opens**
 11:00 am - **Bolivar's Got Talent!**
 Artistic Producer: **Millie Coffee**
 1:00 pm - **Cornhole Tournament**
 Sponsored by **Ocean Grille**
 1:45 pm - **Sandy G y los Gavilanes**
 Tejano Band
 2:00 pm - **Scavenger Hunt**
 4:00 pm - **Scott McGill**
 Sponsored by **Texas Custom Carts**
 6:00 pm - **Closing Ceremony**



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Texas Marine	Ship's Wheel	Paradise Palapa
	COBB Real Estate	Subaru of Clear Lake

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Valero Corner Mart	Fun Town	Fun Spot Waterslide
		CB Community Church



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MARCH MADNESS

Jeffrey Daniels



As the title proclaims, this time of the year will drive some fisherman and woman mad. With the ever-changing weather that this year has brought I do not foresee much to change in the near future. Last month we had super freezes all along the Texas coast and thank the lord we had no major fish kills to my knowledge. With the spring rapidly approaching, and the temperatures rising the time has come for the transition to begin to take place.

With the water temperatures hovering in the low to mid sixties I would look for the fish to begin trickling back towards their normal spring time haunts. Keying on the bait is still the name of the game right now but look for the structure to change as time goes on and the temperatures begin to rise. They wont venture to far from the wintering areas as a potential cold front could be looming in the distance but they will begin to test the waters so to speak.

For East Bay I would look to the North shoreline still but be paying very close attention to any transitional areas that

might be near were you are seeing action. They will still hold close to the mud and shell but not right smack dab in it. Pay very close attention to the bait as they will tell you the mood of the fish for that particular day.

Look to the Upper portions of the bay system to begin to come alive as certain bait species will soon begin their annual migration to the brackish water to spawn, and the predators will surely be there to partake in the festivities to be had. It will still be a while before we see any migrations of bait around the Gulf passes but if this warm weather keeps up it will be sooner than later.

Remember, no matter where you decide to wade, wear your lifejacket at all times, use safety precautions, and be aware of your surroundings! Email a picture of your next great catch to jeffrejdaniels@gmail.com with your name and fish info to be featured in next month's article. Go visit justonemorecastblog.com and read the new "Master Key to Catching Fish" blog, be sure to follow and share on Facebook, Instagram, and twitter. Thank you to all my wonderful sponsors. Tight lines and smooth drag.



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AG Paxton Obtains Final Judgment for Taxpayers in Kilgore ISD Lawsuit

AUSTIN – Attorney General Ken Paxton today announced that a final judgment was entered affirming a victory for Texas homeowners and taxpayers in the Kilgore Independent School District. The judgment finalizes the Gregg County Court's grant of all relief requested by the attorney general in the local option homestead exemption case involving Kilgore ISD's violation of Texas Senate Bill 1. It is estimated that the school district taxed citizens \$4 million or more over what was legally permitted.

"I am grateful that the court recognized Kilgore ISD's attempt to siphon money away from Texas homeowners without their vote or consent," Attorney General Paxton said. "Local governments cannot simply ignore laws they do not like. My office will continue to stand up for homeowners in these districts and voters across the state."

After the Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 1 and Senate Joint Resolution 1 in May 2015 with near universal support, 86 percent of voters ratified the amendment – one of the highest margins of victory for an amendment in recent history. Because the Legislature paid for the tax breaks in the state budget, the law provided a property tax reduction to homesteaders in Texas with no downside to school districts. Nevertheless, some school districts chose to reduce or repeal their local option homestead exemption and assess homeowners a tax rate that violated the law.

Attorney General Paxton's office will be in court in Carson County against White Deer ISD next week seeking the same relief it obtained in the Kilgore ISD case. Twenty school districts throughout Texas reduced or repealed their local option homestead exemptions in 2015: Dumas, Kilgore, White Deer, Bridge City, Broaddus, Christoval, Dainingerfield-Lone Star, Excelsior, Groesbeck, Gruver, Hardin-Jefferson, **High Island**, Kountze, Lexington, Mount Pleasant, Riviera, Shepherd, Spurger, Veribest, and Winfield.

New Game in Town

NO WINNER FOR FEBRUARY

Inspired by Nancy Bachman of Miss Nancy's Bait in Gilchrist, TX, we are making a game of mistakes.

After all, everyone makes mistakes, part of life, part of our imperfections.

Nancy caught a mistake (and I assure you, there are many) in the Beach Triton last month. She not only caught a mistake, she put humor to the mistake.

Here it is from page 23 in the January Beach Triton:

"Pubic Notary" - Nancy's comment, "that could get a little hairy."

She wins the prize for January.

Rules:

1. Your discovery and comment must be sent to the BeachTriton1970@yahoo.com
2. Include the month and page number of the mistake.
3. Make sure you include your humorous comment, must be funny.
4. The Triton will pick the winner at their discretion.
5. Everyone is invited to participate.
6. The winner will be posted in the following month's edition.

TALL SHIPS® GALVESTON APRIL 5 - 8

TALL SHIPS ARE COMING!®

This new festival will host tours of the participating ships, numerous special events, sail away excursions, music, food and fun in a family friendly format. Galveston Island will serve as the first port in the TALL SHIPS CHALLENGE® Gulf Coast 2018 Race Series, which will see participating ships race across the Gulf of Mexico as they visit other participating cities throughout the month of April.

The Tall Ships Challenge® is a series of annual events organized by Tall Ships America. These events draw hundreds of thousands of people to witness beautiful tall ships from the age of sail and provides a unique opportunity for the participants to interact with the crews of different vessels in friendly rivalry as they race from port to port.

The series began in 2001 on the Great Lakes and saw vessels from six countries and visited seven US and Canadian ports. Since its launch, the Tall Ships Challenge® series has visited dozens of North American cities, bringing millions of spectators down to the waterfront to experience the tall ships and creating a cumulative economic impact of hundreds of millions of dollars for host communities. It has continued to grow every year and is an eagerly anticipated event in the seaside communities that host the vessels and beyond.

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Wedding Jitters

By Lynne S Averett
LynneAverett@hotmail.com

I was startled when my cell phone rang as I was dressing to go to the wedding. A friend – no, an acquaintance - was getting married at our old prep school (not that we ever used that term). We had been lab partners in Junior year chemistry and were on a “hello” basis in the halls. That was about it.

So when his cousin Tom called me with the request, I was absolutely taken back. “Would I stand in as Bob’s Best Man (or in my case, Best Woman) today on his wedding day?”

“Yes, of course”, I answered, very surprised. “Well”, I thought, “maybe the Best Man had become ill or something.”

I drove my Honda to our old school where the ceremony would take place and parked in the faculty lot that the cousin had mentioned. I had never parked there before, and as I entered by a private door, I nervously put my car keys in my skirt pocket and left my small white straw clutch bag in a nearby darkened coat closet next to other purses and jackets. I walked into a large garden room and saw about 30 people, all from Bob’s social class mingling, talking and sipping pre-ceremony champagne in frosted flutes. A few were recognizable, (maybe just from the local Paper Talk magazine). I didn’t approach anyone but looked for the cousin who would tell me my role as Best Woman. Seeing him, I asked what I should do. Tom was almost a copy of his cousin Bob-dark hair, tanned with a few freckles, about 28.

He told me that I should stand by the balustrade that overlooked the school garden. A small podium with flowers was set up there, and that’s where the ceremony for Bob and Michelle would take place. Really, all I had to do was to stand next to Bob, say nothing and do nothing. Bob already had the ring for Michelle in his pocket. Moments later, a few guests began to take their seats on chairs set up facing the podium and carved stone rail.

I took my position, and Bob came in from a side door and stood next to me to wait. The ceremony was to be remarkably casual. As we had a little time, we moved closer to the carved rail and looked down into the garden below.

“Thanks for doing this for me,” Bob whispered.

“No problem. It’s a special day for you.” I really didn’t know what else to say.

Bob added, “ Seems like yesterday when we were kids in chemistry class. It all goes so fast.”

“Yes, my grandfather said that same thing to me just last week.”

Bob turned from the balustrade looking intently at me.

“I heard you have a job here in town at Matthews?” he asked. I nodded. My history major in college had evolved into a job in HR at one of the larger local corporations.

“I know you’re in the family business?” I replied.

“Yes,” said Bob, “I guess it was always meant to be. I like the work, and

my economic classes at college helped.”

“Of course,” I thought. Bob came from one of the richest families in town with ownership in oil and all that it provided. He was a nice guy-never stuck up-always kind. His family seemed that way, too. He stood there in silence, and I turned again to look out on the garden.

When I turned back, Bob was gone. Where was he? Maybe he had stepped away to use the bathroom before the ceremony. As I waited, time seemed to speed up, and I was beginning to get nervous. When Bob didn’t return in five minutes. I was frankly concerned. Most of the guests were now seated. Then his cousin came up to the front, glanced at me, and turned to the audience.

“Ladies and gentlemen, may I have your attention, please. There has been a last-minute change in plans, and there will be no ceremony today. We are sorry for your inconvenience, but the couple has mutually decided not to marry today.”

I was stunned and stood there in shock. People were whispering as they rose from their chairs and walked to the back of the garden room. I turned to Tom with a questioning face.

“Bob decided not to marry today,” he whispered.

“What?!”

Tom continued that Bob felt awful about it, but he didn’t want to go through with the ceremony. He added that Bob and some of his family were in

the nearby room, and maybe I should go there and say something to Bob.

Tom walked me back to Bob in the small room where the family was sitting in semi-darkness. I could barely see the outline of several dim figures. Someone motioned me to a corner chair where Bob was slumped. I went over and tentatively put my hand on his shoulder.

“Bob? Bob?”

He looked up. I think he may have been crying.

“It’s okay. It’s better not to marry now than have doubts later.” That was all I could think to say.

He looked fully at me and sadly nodded. I quietly left the room, got my purse from the dark closet and headed to my car to drive home.

Entering the door of my apartment, I put my purse on my table and took the car keys out of my pocket to put them into my white straw bag, but when I opened it, I realized this wasn’t my purse. Inside the almost identical bag was a cream-colored iPhone, some loose cash, Kleenex at the bottom and a gleaming chrome pistol. I had someone’s purse, and she might have mine. I looked for ID but found none. Instead, written on a piece of paper were the words, “Okay, you can shoot him at the wedding.” I stood frozen as I read it again.

“What the heck is going on?” I asked myself.

[Find out what happens next in the April issue of the Beach Triton.]

Happy Birthday!
 Fran Christian
 March 3

Happy Birthday!
 Johnny Lindow
 March 14

Happy Birthday!
 Laura Mefford
 March 27

Happy Birthday!
 Presten Gau
 March 28

Happy Birthday!
 Margaret Lindow
 March 7

Happy Birthday!
 Sheila Horrocks
 March 20

Happy Birthday!
 Derek DeMoss
 March 8

Happy Birthday!
 Kyle Hall
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Blast from the Past

Bryan Wolf
March 1988

Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Finnigan, of the State Inspection Station in Baytown, drive all the way to Bolivar Peninsula just to buy hamburgers and foot long hot dogs from OK's Corral at Crystal Beach and pick up the beach paper at the Trading Post in Gilchrist.

Maybe you didn't know the original ZAM (Sam Hagan of Port Bolivar: was a fighter pilot during the Spanish American War. Shot down two Spanish doves and a ringneck during that hostile action.

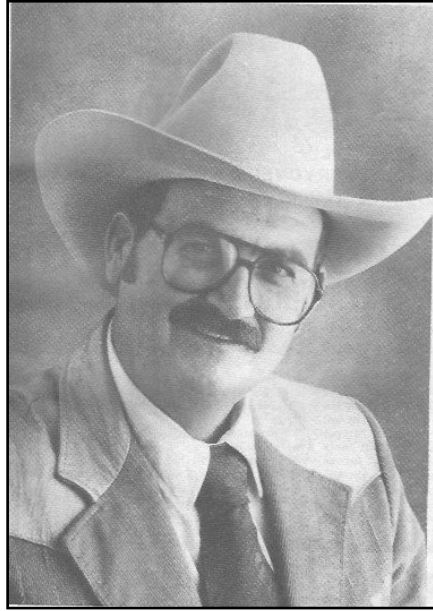
Bootsy Faggard of Gilchrist just made a television commercial for a music company on Beaumont's Channel 12.

Tom A. Doyle, Executive Vice President at Gulf Shores Bank, Crystal Beach, has been given the additional responsibility of Vice President of Vice President and Cashier at Bank of the West, Galveston.

Advice to one of our local politicians: keep an eye on your enemies and a gun on a couple of your friends; they're doing you more harm than good.

Some women use no makeup at all. But Tammy Baker...Tammy uses your industrial strength, heavy-duty mascara. And they say she has her own makeup company.

(Probably Sherwin Williams)
 Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Kahla have grown some giant vegetables in their winter garden. Mr.s Kahla says the only fertilizer used to raise the one pound radish and the eight pound turnip consisted of chicken droppings.



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Galveston County Local Elections March 6, 2018: Primary Elections

2018 Republican Primary		
US Representative, District 14 Keith Casey Bill "Sarge" Sargent Randy Weber (i)	Justice, 14th Court of Appeals, Place 4 Marc Brown (i)	Judge, County Court-at-Law No 3 Jack Ewing (i)
State Board of Education, District 7 Matt Robinson	Justice, 14th Court of Appeals, Place 5 Martha Hill Jamison (i)	Judge, County Probate Court-at-Law Kim Sullivan (i)
State Representative, District 23 Wayne Faircloth (i) Mayes Middleton	Justice, 14th Court of Appeals, Place 6 Bill Boyce (i)	District Clerk John D Kinard (i)
State Representative, District 24 Greg Bonnen (i)	Justice, 14th Court of Appeals, Place 8 John Donovan (i)	County Clerk Dwight Sullivan (i)
Justice, 1st Court of Appeals, Place 2 Jane Bland (i)	District Judge, 122nd Judicial District John Ellisor (i)	County Treasurer Kevin C Walsh (i)
Justice, 1st Court of Appeals, Place 6 Harvey Brown (i)	District Judge, 212th Judicial District Patricia Grady (i)	County Commissioner, Precinct 2 Joe Giusti (i) Kevin O'Brien
Justice, 1st Court of Appeals, Place 7 Katy Boatman Terry Yates	District Judge, 306th Judicial District Anne B Darring (i)	County Commissioner, Precinct 4 Jim Bulgier Ken Clark (i) Billy Enochs Michelle Hatmaker
Justice, 1st Court of Appeals, Place 8 Michael Massengale (i)	Criminal District Attorney Tom Dickens Jack Roady (i)	Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1 Alison Cox (i) Greg Rikard
Justice, 1st Court of Appeals, Place 9 Jennifer Caughey (i)	County Judge Lonnie Cox Mark Henry (i)	Justice of the Peace, Precinct 2 Mike Nelson Jim Schweitzer (i)
Justice, 14th Court of Appeals, Place 3 Brett Busby (i)	Judge, County Court-at-Law No 1 John Grady (i)	Galveston County Republican Party Chair Carl W Gustafson (i) Yolanda Waters
	Judge, County Court-at-Law No 2 Kerri Foley Donnie Quintanilla	

2018 Democratic Primary		
US Representative, District 14 Levy Q Barnes Jr Adrienne Bell	Justice, 1st Court of Appeals, Place 7 Julie Countiss	Justice, 14th Court of Appeals, Place 5 Frances Bourliot
State Board of Education, District 7 Elizabeth "Eliz" Markowitz	Justice, 1st Court of Appeals, Place 8 Richard Hightower	Justice, 14th Court of Appeals, Place 6 Meagan Hassan
State Representative, District 23 Amanda Jamrok	Justice, 1st Court of Appeals, Place 9 Peter Kelly	Justice, 14th Court of Appeals, Place 8 Michele Barber Chimene Margaret "Meg" Poissant
State Representative, District 24 John Y Helps	Justice, 14th Court of Appeals, Place 3 Joseph R Willie II Jerry Zimmerer	Judge, County Court-at-Law No 2 Kerry Pettijohn Benjamin Roeder
Justice, 1st Court of Appeals, Place 2 Gordon Goodman	Justice, 14th Court of Appeals, Place 4 Charles Spain	Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3 Kitty Allen Billy A Williams Jr
Justice, 1st Court of Appeals, Place 6 Sarah Beth Landau		

USN BASE RECEPTION



Congressman Jack Brooks is pictured above welcoming the Crystal Beach delegation, Mayor and Mrs. Bill Kelsey, to a ground breaking ceremonies of the Galveston naval base, February 21. The base is slated to pump \$41 million in construction money into the Galveston economy in the next two years and should have an annual payroll of \$25 million.

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Bolivar Peninsula Special Utility District

Minutes of the Regular Meeting January 9, 2018

Directors Present: George Strong, Vice President; Steve Barnett; Wayne Turk; Dennis Stafford; Hollis Gassen, President; Chris Makin; D. J. Hutchison
Staff Present: Jo E. Ball, General Manager;
Others Present: None

Item 1: Call to Order: At 6:00 PM President, Hollis Gassen, declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order.

Item 2: Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. George Strong and cited by all present. Afterwards, a moment of silence was observed.

Item 3: Approve minutes of the December 12, 2017 general meeting:

A motion was made by George Strong and seconded by Steve Barnett to approve the December 12, 2017 minutes as presented. Motion unanimously passed.

Item 4: Committee Reports:

Audit & Finance: Mr. Dennis Stafford reported the Audit and Finance Committee had met earlier today and reviewed the District's invoices, check registers and bank statements for December and found everything to be in order.

Item 5: Public Comments: There were no public comments.

Item 6: Manager's Report: The manger's report was presented by Mr. Jody Ball and the following items were reported and/or discussed:

1) A Review of Trial Balance, Comparative Budget Report and Account Balance Summary List: The board reviewed the Trail Balance Report, Comparative Budget Report and the Account Balance Summary through December and found everything to be in order.

2) Review System Operational Reports:

* District Water Losses. The District experienced a four-month average water loss through December of 9% and 7.29% for the month.

* The District has 4,860 active accounts through December. In December, 1 account were liquidated and 55 shut off for non-payment.

* Total water sales for December were \$282,330.

* Average monthly water bill for December is \$61.00.

* Water pumped was 21.9M gallons and water sold was 13.5M gallons with a loss difference of 8.4M gallons. There were 8 leaks repaired.

* No reportable accidents or incidents during the month of December.

3) Review current infrastructure projects: The engineer should have 60% of the blue prints completed by the end of January for the District's review.

4) Rollover Pass: There is no additional information available.

5) Personnel: The District is fully staffed with the exception of hiring one person to read meters general maintenance.

6) Finances: Net income for December is \$69,351.

Item 7: Discussion and possible action to approve 2018 TRWA dues:

A motion was made by George Strong and seconded by Chris Makin to approve TRWA dues. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 8: Discussion and possible action to approve Quarterly Investment Report:

A motion was made by Dennis Stafford and seconded by Wayne Turk to approve the Quarterly Investment Report as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 9: Discussion and possible action to approve appointment of a new Board member:

One individual submitted an application for the position. He will be interviewed during the February meeting. This item was tabled.

Item 10: Discussion and possible action on Scheduled Sexual Harassment Class:

The class is scheduled for January 23rd in the District's office.

Item 11: Consideration and possible action on 2009 bond: Texas Water Development Board is questioning when the District is planning to pay off this Bond, since they approved the changes in bond covenants the District had requested. The District will wait until it resolves issues with LNVA. The item was tabled.

Item 12: Discussion and possible action on Bond covenant changes: The District's legal council is working on the changes. This item is tabled until the February meeting.

Item 13: Discussion and possible action on new plant production meters through Capital Project budget: The new meters (a fourteen and a sixteen inch) are

for the incoming water at the Singing Sands and High Island south plants. They are outside the 10% tolerance. The total price for both meters is \$14,937.95. Dennis Stafford made a motion and seconded by Wayne Turk to approve the purchase of the new production meters. The motion unanimously passed.

Item 14: Discussion and possible action on LNVA budget: LNVA is attempting to bill the District \$300,000 for cleaning two "sludge" ponds at their Winnie water surface treatment plant. They have spread this charge out for the next three years. The District is challenging this charge and is seeking to spread this charge out for the next ten years. Other possible charges from LNVA might come from the damage they suffered from Hurricane/Tropical storm Harvey. With these charges, the District is placing paying off the 2009 Bond on hold until these additional charges with LNVA have been settled. The District will send a letter to LNVA requesting a meeting with their Board to state the District's position on these charges.

Item 15: Discussion and possible action to recognize the 50th year anniversary for BPSUD: November 1967 was the birth of the water District.

Item 16: Directors comments regarding future committee meetings:

1) Audit and Finance Committee. None.

2) Personnel and Policy. Interview potential new Board member.

3) Plant and Product. None.

4) Public Relations Committee. Communication letter to customers.

Item 17: Directors Comments regarding future agenda items:

1) New Board member

2) TWDB

3) LNVA budget update

4) General Manager's contract

Item 18: Set the Date for the Next Meeting:

Next meeting date is set for February 13, 2018.

Item 19: Adjournment: Motion by Wayne Turk and seconded by Steve Barnett. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM. The motion unanimously passed.

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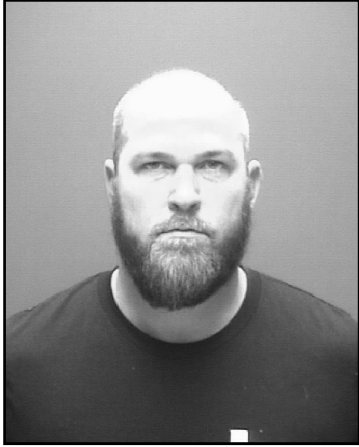
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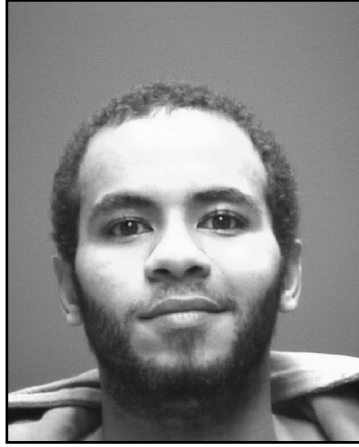
Galveston County Sheriff's Office FEBRUARY Arrest Report

"COME FOR VACATION, DON'T LEAVE ON PROBATION"

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A defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty and convicted.**



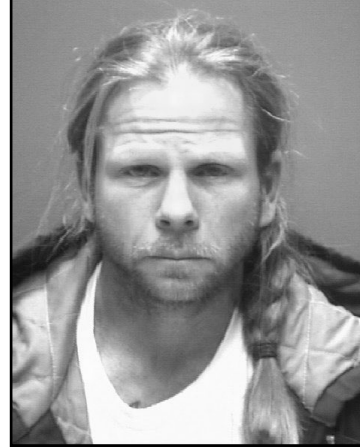
Bradley, Heath Allen (W /M/37) Arrest on chrg of Out Of County Warrant(orange County), F (F), at 2303 Hwy 87, Gilchrist, TX, on 2/2/2018 09:30.



Donoho, Matthew Lynn (B /M/25) Arrest on chrg of Driving While License Invalid Class" c", M (M), at 1260 Bayview Dr, Crystal Beach, TX, on 2/4/2018 01:08.



Nugent, April Anne (W /F/51) Arrest on chrg of 1) Display Fictitious License Plate (M), 2) Fail To Maintain Finan Rec Or Prep Annual Rpt (M), and 3) Driving W/lic Inv W/prev Conv/susp/w/o Fin Res (M), at 2999 Hwy 87/stingree, Crystal Beach, TX, on 2/5/2018 09:39.



Sarles, Charles Frank (W /M/42) Arrest on chrg of Unl Poss Firearm By Felon, F (F), at 1839 Hwy 87, Gilchrist, TX, on 2/5/2018 15:23.



Cooper, Dustin Revell (B /M/33) Arrest on chrg of Municipal Hold - Gpd (M), at 1300 29th St, Port Bolivar, TX, on 2/5/2018 16:30.



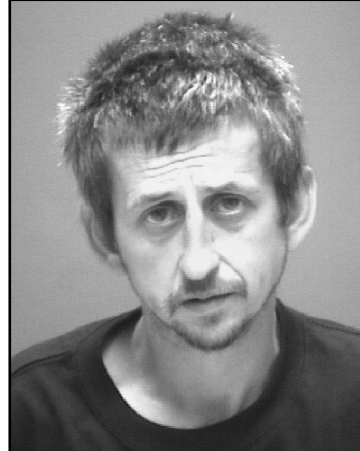
Decker, Bonnie Ann (W /F/48) Arrest on chrg of 1) Poss Cs Pg 1 <1g (F) and 2) Poss Marij <2oz (M), at 1044 Hwy 87, Crystal Beach, TX, on 2/7/2018 15:54.



Feury, Sandra Lee (W /F/59) Arrest on chrg of Driving W/lic Inv W/prev Conv/ susp/w/o Fin Res (M), at 300 Hwy 87, Crystal Beach, TX, on 2/9/2018 10:50.



Morris, Christopher Michall (W /M/35) Arrest on chrg of Out Of County Warrant(harris Co) (M), at 1860 Hwy 87, Crystal Beach, TX, on 2/12/2018 13:41.



Howell, Kenneth Paul (W /M/38) Arrest on chrg of Burglary Of Building (F), at 1860 Hwy 87, Crystal Beach, TX, on 2/12/2018 13:50.



Blevins, Paul Michael (W /M/32) Arrest on chrg of Out Of County Warrant- Victoria Co (F), at 1968 Ave D, Crystal Beach, TX, on 2/16/2018 06:32.



Dickerson, Michael Lee (W /M/37) Arrest on chrg of Driving While License Invalid Class" c" (M), at Texas 87, Port Bolivar, TX, on 2/20/2018 12:27.



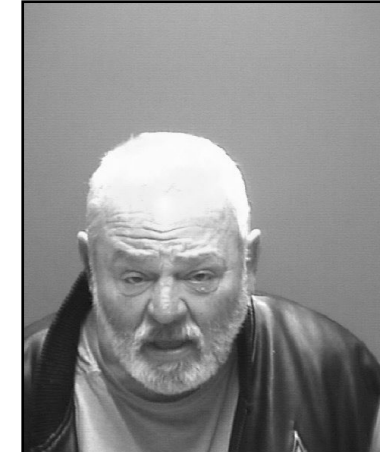
Stark, Angela Michele (W /F/46) Arrest on chrg of Fail To Identify (M), at Texas 87, Port Bolivar, TX, on 2/20/2018 12:27.



Silva, Thomas Dean (W /M/49) Arrest on chrg of Poss Cs Pg 1 >=1g<4g, F (F), at 311 N Ih 45 Fwy, League City, TX, on 2/22/2018 03:37.



Stovall, Leah Marie (W /F/28) Arrest on chrg of Poss Cs Pg 1 >=1g<4g (F), at 311 N Ih 45 Fwy, League City, TX, on 2/22/2018 03:37.



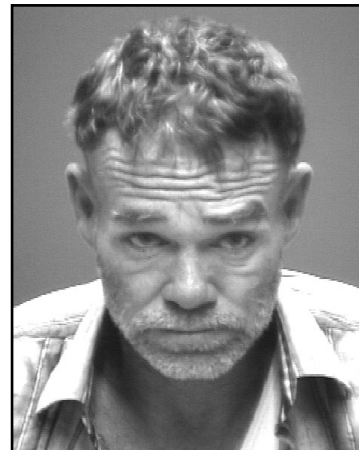
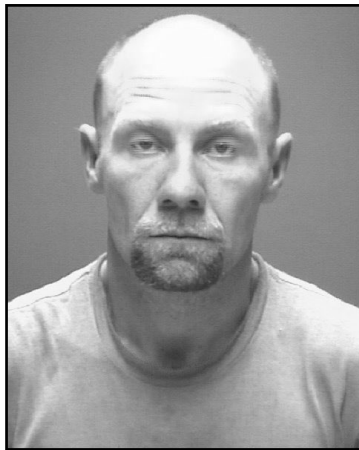
Morgan, David Allen (W /M/63) Arrest on chrg of Public Intoxication, M (M), at 100 Hwy 87, Port Bolivar, TX, on 2/22/2018 10:57.

Galveston County Sheriff's Office FEBRUARY Arrest Report



"COME FOR VACATION, DON'T LEAVE ON PROBATION"

**Arrest does not imply guilt, and criminal charges are merely accusations.
A defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty and convicted.**



Parker, John Allen (W /M/37) Arrest on chrg of Criminal Trespass (M), at 1233 N Loop Rd, Crystal Beach, TX, on 2/23/2018 02:50.

Brooks, Mindi Ann (W /F/42) Arrest on chrg of Unserve Bond Condition Hold (M), at 16 Nelson Ave, Port Bolivar, TX, on 2/23/2018 08:15. Arrest on chrg of Assault Causes Bodily Injury Family Violence, M (M), at 16/nelson Ave, Pr Bolivar, on 2/23/2018 08:15.

Stovall, Teresia Marie (W /F/59) Arrest on chrg of Poss Cs Pg 1 <1g (F), at 4000 lh 45, La Marque, TX, on 2/24/2018 22:14.

Turrubiardez, Juan Valentin (W /M/30) Arrest on chrg of Public Intoxication (M), at 100 Hwy 87, Port Bolivar, TX, on 2/25/2018 19:30.

Sealy, Jerry Ringo (W /M/45) Arrest on chrg of 1) Criminal Mischief >=\$100<\$750 (M) and 2) Criminal Trespass (M), at 1855 Hwy 87, Crystal Beach, TX, on 2/26/2018 14:15.

The Beach Bum says a sleepwalking nun is called a 'roamin' Catholic.

The Beach Bum says the fight he and his wife had last night was his fault. She asked what was on TV and I said dust.

One night a policewoman pulls over a drunk Beach Bum. She politely asks him to step out of his car. He willingly does so. She says, "Anything you say can and will be Held against you." The Bum replies, "BREASTS."

The Beach Bum says, You say alcoholic, I say embracing the holiday spirit."

The Beach Bum says the police sent me a picture of me speeding. So, I sent them a picture of a check. They sent me a picture of handcuffs.

The Beach Bum says my ex-wife has weekly lessons with the devil on how to be more evil...I don't know how much she charges him, though.

The Beach Bum says he says instead of 'the john', I call my toilet 'the jim'. That way it sounds better when I say I go to the jim first thing every morning.

The Beach Bum says alcohol is a perfect solvent: It dissolves marriages, families and careers.

The Beach Bum and his wife are sitting on a bench. The Bum says, "I think my butt is asleep!" His wife says, "I'm sure of it, I could hear it snoring."

The Beach Bum says before I tell my wife something important, I take both her hands in mine. That way she can't hit me with them.

The Beach Bum says to be happy with a man, you must understand him a lot and love him a little. To be happy with a woman, you must love her a lot and not try to understand her at all.

The Beach Bum says improve your memory by doing unforgettable things.

The Beach Bum grew a beard thinking it would say "Distinguished Gentleman." Instead, turns out it says, "Senior Discount, Please!"

The Beach Bum says it was only when I bought a motorbike that I found out that adrenaline is brown.

The Beach Bum's wife says the dinner I was cooking for my family was going to be a surprise but the firetrucks ruined it.

The Beach Bum says the reason a dog has so many friends is that he wags his tail instead of his tongue.

The Beach Bum says time may be a great healer but it's also a lousy beautician.

The Beach Bum says clinging on to the past and living is like driving forward while watching the rear view mirror.

The Beach Bum says never ask a woman who is eating ice cream straight from the carton how she's doing.

The Beach Bum says aging gracefully is like the nice way of saying you're slowly looking worse.

The Beach Bum says children in the dark make accidents, but accidents in the dark make children.

The Beach Bum says some people feel the rain. Others just get wet.

The Beach Bum says the older I get, the earlier it gets late.

The Beach Bum says I asked my wife if she very fantasizes about me, she said yes - about me taking out the trash, mowing the lawn and doing the dishes.

The Beach Bum says the reason grandchildren and grandparents get along so well is because they have a common "enemy '.

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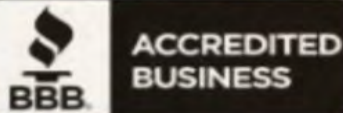
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