

Baby Bald Eagle Spotted In Bird Notes
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Agencies Blasted Over Wildfire Oversight
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Sharkettes Bound For Area Meet
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Hurricane season forecasted to be 'extremely active'

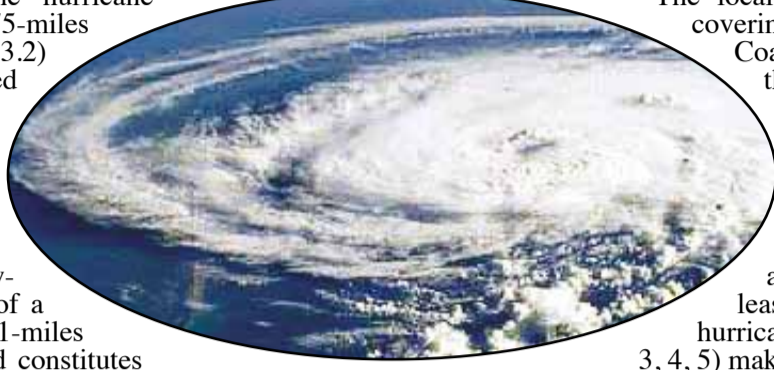
BY RYAN WEST
Palacios Beacon-Publisher

After a much-to-do-about-nothing during the 2023 Atlantic hurricane season, residents of our beloved *City by the Sea* ought take heed as tropical weather experts are forecasting the 2024 season to be extremely active. Longtime hurricane forecasters from Colorado State University's renowned Meteorology Project predict the 2024 season to be extremely active in their Extended Range Forecast released last Thurs. (April 4). The CSU forecast is intended to provide a best estimate of activity in the Atlantic during the upcoming season - not an exact measure. As always, researchers caution coastal residents to take proper precautions.

The long range forecast calls for 23 named storms (14.4 average from 1991-2020, with 11 (7.2) forecast to develop into hurricanes. Of those eleven storms with winds exceeding the hurricane threshold of 75-miles per hour, 5 (3.2) are predicted to reach major hurricane status. Major hurricanes have sustained low-level winds of a minimum 111-miles per hour, and constitutes

a category 3 storm or higher. The CSU crew see a total of 115 (69.4) named storm days, 45 (27) hurricane days, and 13 (7.4) major hurricane days. The local target area, covering the Gulf Coast from the Florida Panhandle westward to Brownsville, is forecast for a 42% probability for at least one major hurricane (Category 3, 4, 5) making landfall.

The coastline of the continental U.S. is forecasted for a 62% probability of a major hurricane landfall, and the Atlantic coast has a 34% probability. With a 47% average from 1880-2020 of a major hurricane tracking thru in the Caribbean, 2024s season is forecasted for a 66% chance. The CSU forecast is based on an extended-range early April statistical prediction scheme that was developed using nearly 40 years of past data. The CSU staff note their statistical model, statistical/dynamical model and analog model all call for an extremely active Atlantic hurricane season in 2024. Coastal resident are reminded that it only



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Beacon Deadline
4:30 p.m. Friday

Except for paid advertising, all articles, photos or other information submitted on Monday will be published on a space available basis only.

Open 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Beacon Closed Wednesday



Observing Our **117th** Year
1907-2024

BEACON BRIEFS

Texas Bird Art Show Sat. at New Frontier Gallery

New Frontier Gallery, located at 500 Commerce, will open up for an art show featuring Texas Bird Art by Marion Harper, on Sat. (April 13) from 10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Friends of the Outrigger present Zak Perry & The Beautiful Things Sat. at Pavilion

Zak Perry & The Beautiful Things will hit the stage at the Palacios Pavilion on Sat. (April 13) at 7 p.m. For more info, call 361-920-6513

First UMC chicken spaghetti fundraiser Sun.

The First United Methodist Church in Palacios will be holding a chicken spaghetti plate sale from 11 a.m. until sold out on Sun. (April 14) at the Palacios Volunteer Fire Dept., located at 600 Henderson Ave.

Lions Club Pancake Supper Tues. at Sanford

The Palacios Lions Club will serve up its Pancake Supper, for either dine-in or take-out, on Tues. (April 16) from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Sanford Community Center, located at 907 8th St. Donations are appreciated



MAKING their campaign pitches to the masses at last week's general membership luncheon of the Palacios Chamber of Commerce were: (left to right) incumbent Mayor of Palacios - Jim Gardner, City Council Pos. 2 candidate Troy Lewis, Palacios ISD Trustee Pos. 1 candidate Ron Laws, City of Palacios Mayoral candidate Rick Cink, incumbent Palacios ISD Trustee Pos. 2 Karen Botbyl, incumbent City Councilman Pos. 1 Larry Glenn. (Beacon Photo by Ryan West)

Local candidates debut at CofC

BY BRANDI GARCIA WEST
Palacios Beacon

The Palacios Chamber of Commerce hosted a political forum with Dr. Bill Chapman, Palacios ISD superintendent as moderator. All City and School Board members were invited to participate with the 3 minute speech on their views with the only requirement of being present to speak and not having anyone speaking on their behalf.

City Forum
Mayoral Candidates
For City of Palacios Mayoral candidates Rick Cink and incumbent Jim Gardner were both present. Cink introduced himself as a resident since 1989, a 6 year Air Force veteran, University of Oklahoma graduate in Law Enforcement Administration, a 2021 retiree of STP after 36 years, a 21 year Palacios ISD School board member, and 40 years actively involved in Palacios Little League currently serving as president. Cink stated others would describe himself as "Fair, honest, compassionate, committed and I would bring these same qualities as mayor." Cink described Palacios struggling with it's identity, and that Palacios can be known for it's commerce, tourism and as a retirement town.

"I also believe I would be the best person to navigate through some of the difficult decisions as we create our city's identity: being transparent and respectful to all citizens of our city."

Gardner decided not to introduce himself but guaranteed his commitment to being available to all. "Everyone that has asked me to mediate a situation that we have met a very positive outcome. I'm letting you know that I have proven and continuing to be your representative; I'm con-

tinuing to serve this city." Gardner stated he is not in a sign making contest, regarding the number of signs he has displayed throughout town and he emphasized that being born here is not a requirement. Gardner stated when he came onboard as mayor, there was a new city manager and "the house had been exploded and we have been making relationships, learning things, building things."

Gardner prefaced the start of his tenure as a contentious council situation, but that now "we have a good running organization, the council and city trusting each other, we created that stability and we need to maintain it." Gardner concluded by stating there is no learning curve and asked for continuity.

Council Pos. 1
Position 1 Councilman Larry Glenn with challenger Raylynn Zamora (not present)

Glenn shared "I'll support the PD, the drainage at Bethany Park, the drainage behind Main St (4-5th St.) "This town has growing pains and right now we have a problem with being divided. We need better PR (public relations), we need to bring citizens together."

Glenn stated that the council needs to stand strong but let the citizens know that council is accomplishing new things that have never been accomplished in this town before; attributing these new things to City Manager Raleigh. "We need to work together, until this other group don't attack us, we can stay forward we can focus on the things we are focussing on now." Glenn assured Chamber that within a year or two things will be accomplished. Glenn stated Palacios needs more housing, more businesses here, to revitalize downtown, bring people here permanently and tourists. Elected or not Glenn stated he's here

(See CofC, Page 2)

Matagorda Bay Birdfest returns this weekend

Release Courtesy
Matagorda Bay Birdfest

Tours and talks by internationally known experts, a spectacular bird parade, and the launch and signing of the new children's book *Matagorda Magic: The Hidden Life of a Texas Bay*, are just a few highlights of the eighth annual Matagorda Bay Birdfest happening April 12-14 in Palacios.

The Matagorda Bay BirdFest connects people, birds and nature. Organized by the MARSH PROJECT (Matagorda Area Response for Sustainable Habitat) and rooted in art and science, BirdFest raises public awareness and support and invites everyone to celebrate the abundance of life and rich ecology that define our Texas coastal bays and estuaries. Birdfest offers a unique opportunity for new and ex-

(See BIRDFEST, Page 6)

PEDC looks to hop on PUD

BY BRANDI GARCIA WEST
Palacios Beacon

The Palacios Economic Development Corporation (PEDC) submitted an application to join the Pearl of Palacios Planned Unit Development (PUD). However, an extension will be required as the PEDC land, originally designated for future tourism housing, as it needs to be released by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept. (TPWD) with the City of Palacios prior to Palacios Marine Agriculture Research purchasing this land from the PEDC. This may be a rather lengthy process, up to 2 years, to acquire the release of the property from TPWD.

The past acquisition of this PEDC property was always intended for a hotel, stated, PEDC board president D.C. Dunham.

Dunham and director Chip Woolf emphasized that a PUD has always been the City of Palacios' zoning ordinance, that this is not a new concept or rule, also as per the City of Palacios, Code of Ordinances, chapter 14: Zoning, exhibit B, Section 12.312: PUD.

(See PEDC, Page 4)

Preparing for the Future: 'What to do with Mom & Dad'

An Essential Life Planning Event presented by The Montgomery Home, Palacios Community Hub & Friends of Elder Citizens

In an effort to support individuals and families in planning for the future, The Montgomery Home, Palacios Community Hub, and Friends of Elder Citizens are joining forces to host an informative event on April 14th from 3-5pm at the Palacios Pavilion. This collaborative effort aims to provide valuable resources and information on home health care, hospice, assisted living, financial planning, and legal services.

The event, open to residents of Palacios and surrounding communities, will

feature presentations, a Q&A session, and one-on-one conversations with experts in various fields. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about important aspects of life planning and to ask questions directly to professionals in the field.

"We believe that being prepared for the future is crucial," said Emily Fagan-Baker, Executive Director of Palacios Community Hub. "By offering this event, we hope to empower individuals of all ages to make informed decisions

about their future care and financial well-being."

Light refreshments will be provided, and the event is free to attend. However, organizers kindly request RSVPs by calling the Hub at 361-972-9990 or emailing palacios.hub.director@gmail.com.

Don't miss this valuable opportunity to learn, connect, and plan for the future. Come on Sun. (April 14) and take the first step towards a more secure future for yourself and your loved ones.

• Deadline for Articles, Classified & Display Ads 4:30 p.m. Friday •

