

Performances of patriotic play continue

Get a double dose of red, white and blue at the Port Aransas Community Theatre. See a patriotic play and enter a drawing for a patriotic quilt.

The PACT winter musical production is entitled "4th Of July." Performances are Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m., through Jan. 31, with a 2:30 p.m. matinee on Sunday, Feb. 1.

The play is a patriotic musical tracing the history of the United States from 1776 to the present. It is also about Jennifer, 16, who regrets never having met her grandfather who was killed in Vietnam. During the play, Jennifer discovers a lot about herself and her country.

The characters in the play are Jim and Peggy, an RVing couple writing a play entitled "Fourth Of July" for the community theatre. They recruit Bob,

Jan and their two teenage children, Jennifer and Mike, to work with them.

The setting for the show is split between an RV park and the community theatre. Staging at the theatre is handled with scenes both in front of the curtain and behind the curtain.

Bob and Jan are played by Jack Dreesen and Phyllis Layne.

Jim and Peggy are played by Chuck Thompson and Laura Crocker.

Jennifer and Mike are played by Jenna Ward and Ty Morris.

Call 749-6036 or visit the theater box office Monday through Friday noon to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for reservations. Tickets will also be available at the door at each performance. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for those 12 and under.

The play was written by Larry Paton,

a former part-time Port Aransas resident who now lives in Corpus Christi with his wife, Marg. The Patons used to be full-time RVers.

Marg Paton has made a 5 x 5-foot red, white and blue lap quilt that will be the prize in a drawing to be held at PACT after the matinee performance on Feb. 1. No need to be present to win.

Proceeds from ticket sales from the drawing go to PACT.

"The quilt was inspired by the patriotic musical my husband wrote, so that's why I picked those fabrics and this pattern - because it reminded me of a flag," Marg said.

The quilt is on display in the lobby at PACT. Tickets for the drawing are \$2 each or six for \$10. They may be purchased at the theater.



STAFF PHOTO BY MICHAEL CARY

Casino night

Casino night volunteer Jake Roberts pays winnings to Sandy McInnes of Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, after she won a bet at the wheel of fortune during the Port Aransas Rotary Club's annual casino night and fish fry in the Civic Center on Saturday, Jan. 17. In the background is Sandy Hoogenakker of Siren, Wis.

Photographer to present at Pollock Center

Learn about photojournalism at the next lecture in the Brown Bag Lecture Series, Wednesday, Jan. 21.

Beginning at noon in the Pollock Center, 129 S. Alister St., Michelle Christenson will speak about photography, video and journalism.

Christenson is a multimedia producer for Caller.com, the Web site of the Corpus Christi Caller-Times newspaper. Her responsibilities include shooting and editing video, writing articles for both the Web site and the print version of the newspaper and updating and monitoring the Web site.

Christenson has lived on Mustang Island for eight years and has produced many news articles, photos and videos on subjects related to Port Aransas during that time.

Her photos have appeared in newspapers all over the nation.

This free series is sponsored jointly by the Joint Effort Leisure Ministry (JELM) Center and the City of Port Aransas Parks and Recreation Department.

A new topic is discussed each Wednesday through March.

Community members are invited to bring a sack lunch to the lecture.

The lecture is free but donations may be made to the JELM Center to help with expenses that accrue for the many activities held October through March.

Island Agenda

DAILY

- Port Aransas Community Park swimming pool, 700 Clark Parkway, offers swim lessons, water exercise and lap swimming. Open daily except Mondays for swimming, 1-6 p.m., and more. Call 749-2416 for information.
- Free use of Computer Center, Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; closed Sunday, 430 N. Alister St. Free e-mail, 749-4011.
- Art Center for the Islands offers a variety of classes. Call 749-7334 for current information.
- The University of Texas at Austin Marine Science Institute (UTMSI) Visitors Center is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.
- The Port Aransas Historical Museum, corner of Brundrett and Alister St. open 1 - 5 p.m. Thursday through Saturday.
- Trolley service 10 a.m. to 5:55 p.m. Wave the trolley down anywhere along the route from Roberts Point Park to Gulf Waters RV Resort on State Hwy. 361 South. Maps, schedules available at the Tourist Bureau.

WEEKLY

- Free fitness class for permanent residents and school district taxpayers, 4 p.m., H.G. Olsen Elementary gym. Call 749-6990. Mon., Tues., Thurs.
- Port Aransas Running Club and Walkers, Too meet to run and walk, 7 a.m., meet at Port Aransas Community Park swimming pool parking lot. Contact Steve Canion, 749-3388. Tues., Wed., Thurs.
- Body Toning, 8 a.m., Pollock Center, 113 N. Alister St., Tues and Thurs.
- Rotary Club meeting, noon, Pelican's Landing Restaurant, 337 N. Alister St. Thurs.
- Adult water exercise classes, 8:15 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and noon, Port Aransas Community Park (heated) swimming pool, 700 Clark Parkway. Tues. - Fri.
- Mom and Tot Time, 10:30 a.m. to noon, Port Aransas Community Park (heated) swimming pool, 700 Clark Parkway. Tues. - Fri.
- Alcoholics Anonymous open meeting, 8 p.m., Sharp Pavilion behind Trinity-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, 433 Trojan. 749-6449. Monday through Sunday
- Adult tennis, 7:30 a.m., PAISD tennis courts on Station Street. Free, no partner needed. Call Murray 749-4861 or 749-5131 for more information. Mon., Wed. Fri.

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- Story Time, 10:30 - 11 a.m., Bill Ellis Memorial Library, 749-4116. Sat.
- Low impact aerobics, 8 to 9 a.m., JELM Center, 113 Alister. Call 749-3439 for more information. Mon., Wed., Fri.
- Creative writing group, 10 a.m. - noon, JELM Center library next to Community Presbyterian Church, 113 S. Alister St. Mon.
- Golden Agers Lunch Bunch for full-time residents age 60 and over, Pollock Center. Meet at 11:30 a.m. Lunch is served at noon. Call 749-5319 by Sunday for reservations. Tues.
- Port Aransas Volleyball Association practice for beginners, 7-9 p.m., H.G. Olsen Elementary School gym, 100 Station St. Tues.
- Birding on the Boardwalk, guided bird walk with Ray Little, 9 a.m., Leonabelle Turnbull Birding Center on the south end of Ross Avenue. Call Parks and Recreation Dept., 749-4158 for more information. Wed.
- Kiwanis Club meeting, noon, Jay's Seafood and Spaghetti Works. All are welcome. Wed.

THIS WEEK

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

- Kiwanis Club Great Potato Bake, Sandcastle Conference Center, 800 Sandcastle Dr., 5-7 p.m. (See story this page.)
- UTMSI free public lecture series, 'Red, White and Blue Fish,' UTMSI Visitor's Center, 7 p.m. (See story this page.)
- Project Graduation meeting, PAHS library, 6 p.m. (See story this page)
- '4th of July' Port Aransas Community Theatre, 2327 State Hwy. 361, 7 p.m. (See story this page.)
- Free movie at the UTMSI Visitors Center, 3 p.m. 'Explosion of Life' 53 minutes. Movies are subject to cancellation without notice.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

- Free guided beachwalk, Horace Caldwell Pier, 9 a.m. (See story this page.)
- Sand Slam poetry performance and competition, Moby Dick's, 517 S. Alister St. (See story this page.)
- '4th of July,' Port Aransas Community Theatre, 2327 State Hwy. 361, 7 p.m. (See story this page.)



SURFSIDE CARTWHEEL

SATURDAY, JANUARY 24

- 'Murder 101' talk by David Ciambone, Dunes Condominiums, 1000 Lantana Dr., 7 p.m. (See story this page.)
- '4th of July,' Port Aransas Community Theatre, 2327 State Hwy. 361, 7 p.m. (See story this page.)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25

- Sandy Awards, Port Aransas Community Theatre, 2327 State Hwy. 361, 7 p.m. (See story this page.)

MONDAY, JANUARY 26

- Dine Around, 5-8 p.m. (See story this page.)
- Marlin Athletic Booster Club meeting, PAISD administration building, 6:30 p.m. (See story page 4B.)
- Deadline to place listing for citywide garage sale. Call Pam Greene, 749-4158. (See story page A4.)
- Free movie at the UTMSI Visitors Center, 3 p.m. 'Climate on the Edge,' 52 minutes. Movies are subject to cancellation without notice.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27

- Free movie at the UTMSI Visitors Center, 3 p.m. 'Open Ocean,' 45 minutes. Movies are subject to cancellation without notice.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28

- Brown Bag lecture series, noon at the Pollock Center, 129 S. Alister St. Michelle Christenson on photojournalism. (See story this page.)
- Free movie at the UTMSI Visitors Center, 3 p.m. 'Origins,' 53 minutes. Movies are subject to cancellation without notice.

ON THE HORIZON

- Jan. 29: PAPHA benefit PAHS band concert.
- Jan. 31: Citywide garage sale Wordology
- Feb. 7-8: Ellis Memorial Library Book Sale

Dine Around town

Sample island cuisine, enjoy shops and socialize Monday

Time is running out to buy tickets for the 12th annual Port Aransas Merchant's Dine Around, set for Monday, Jan. 26, from 5 to 8 p.m.

The number of tickets to be sold is limited and, "Sales are fairly brisk," according to Ann Bracher Vaughan, executive director of the Port Aransas Chamber of Commerce-Tourist Bureau.

The event is a way to showcase restaurants and shops in Port Aransas.

Participants can sample small portions of island cuisine at restaurants, enjoy dessert and beverage samples at Port Aransas shops and boutiques, and socialize.

The cost is \$15. Tickets may be purchased at the Port Aransas Chamber of Commerce-Tourist Bureau at 403 W. Cotter Ave., or at Bilmore & Son Hardware at 115 N. Alister St.

Participating restaurants and bars

include: Barnacle Bill's Pierhouse and Grill, Castaways Seafood & Grill, Crazy Cajun Seafood Restaurant, Fins Grill & Icehouse, Little Joe's Smoke'n Grill, Lovett's Bar, Miss K Catering & Gourmet Food, Moby Dicks Restaurant & Gift Shop, Moore-McDonald VFW Post 8967, Pelican's Landing Restaurant, Port "A" Seafood, Port "A" Pizzeria, Port A Coast Club, Port Aransas Brewing Company, Seafood & Spaghetti Works, The Gaff, Trout Street Bar & Grill, Venetian Hot Plate, Wild Horse Saloon and Grill and Quizzo's. Shops, boutiques and other businesses include A Mano, Art Center for the Islands, Gratitude Gift Shoppe, Mustang Island Art Gallery, Port "A" Surf Co., Salt Grass Boutique, Silver Sands Realty and Stephanie's Stuff.

For more information contact the chamber at 749-5919 or 800-45-COAST.

Poets will throw down on Friday

Be entertained by poets and performers at the Sand Slam tomorrow, Friday, Jan. 23, at Moby Dick's restaurant, 517 S. Alister St.

Presenting poets must sign up by 7:30 p.m., and the performance starts at 8 p.m.

Competing poets must bring at least three selections of their own writing, as three rounds are held before declaring a winner.

The evening will begin with an open microphone, available for poetry not original to the presenter. It will then progress to the competition.

Performances are limited to three minutes.

The monthly event is open to of all types of poetry, but will be kept family-friendly as teens are encouraged to attend and compete.

Musical accompaniment is allowed.

The event is free, but donations are being accepted to help with expenses and prize money.

Anyone who would like to host a slam may contact community

program coordinator Pam Greene at 749-4158 or (361) 815-4691.

The slams, held by the City of Port Aransas Parks and Recreation Department on the fourth Friday of each month, are open to the public.

Potato Bake is tonight

The Port Aransas Kiwanis Club is getting ready for the annual Great Potato Bake today, Thursday, Jan. 22, at the Sand Castle Conference Center, 800 Sandcastle Dr.

From 5 to 7 p.m., build your own baked potato with numerous

topping choices and enjoy a salad, dessert and coffee or tea.

Tickets are \$8 and may be purchased at the door, at American Bank, 216 S. Alister St., or from any Kiwanis Club member.

For more information, call Ellen Gray, 749-3379.

Guided beach walk set

Come check out the flotsam and jetsam on the beach.

Join Port Aransas resident Shirley Fischer on a free, monthly beach walk. She will lead beachcombers tomorrow, Friday, Jan. 23, in examining tidal treasures.

Walkers should meet at 9 a.m. under the purple flag near Horace Caldwell Pier, at the end of Beach St. for the tour sponsored by the City of Port Aransas Parks and Recreation Department.

"Come enjoy the beach and see what you can find," said parks depart-

ment community programs director Pam Greene.

Sandy Awards to be presented

The Port Aransas Community Theatre will present the sixth annual Sandy Awards at 7 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 25.

This red carpet event will be held at the theater, 2327 State Hwy. 361, and will include hors d'oeuvres, spirits and entertainment.

Awards to be presented are for best actress and actor, best supporting actress and actor, best vocalists, male and female and best vocalists under 18 male and female, best set design, best costuming, best director, best production and a special award for best PACT supporter.

The event is free and open to the public.

Webb will address seafood production

The University of Texas Marine Science Institute's public lecture series will continue tonight, Thursday, Jan. 22, at 7 p.m. in the Visitor Center, on East Cotter Avenue just before you reach the beach.

Tonight's lecture will be given by Dr. Ken Webb of UTMSI. Webb will address U.S. seafood production and economy in "Red, White and Blue Fish."

The harvest of seafood from American waters is in decline and the culture of fish and shellfish has failed

to keep up with increasing demands leaving a huge market for foreign seafood in the United States.

In 2006, the United States spent more than \$13 billion to import seafood from around the world even though we have the capacity to produce much of this here.

Webb will discuss some of the most important reasons for this. Topics discussed will range from the sustainability of fishing to the quality of farmed seafood from around the world.

Chamber to participate in Travel Fair in Fulton

The Port Aransas Chamber of Commerce-Tourist Bureau staff members will travel to Fulton on Wednesday, Jan. 28.

They will be among approximately 40 representatives of tourism and outdoor recreation at the Coastal Bend Travel Fair at the Paws and Taws Convention Center, 402 Fulton Beach Rd., from 10 a.m.

to 4 p.m.

The travel fair aims to increase awareness of various tourism attractions around the Coastal Bend.

Special exhibits, including art and wildlife photography will be on display, vendors and guides, food, drink and over 100 door prizes will be featured.

Advertising deadline for the Spring Visitors' Guide is tomorrow, Jan. 23
Call the South Jetty 749-5131

WINTER TEXAN SPECIALS
WITH COUPON (OFFER ENDS 3-1-09)
BREAKFAST FOR TWO (8am-11am, Mon.-Fri. Only)
2 pancakes, 2 orders of meat, 4 eggs (any Style),
double hashbrowns..... \$7.99 plus tax

FISH DINNER FOR TWO (11am-8pm, Mon.-Fri. Only)
1 1/2 lb breaded fried fish, fries or new potatoes, cole slaw,
bread, tarter and red sauce..... \$11.99

BEACH LODGE • 361 749-5713
2016 On The Beach (Marker #9) • Port Aransas

WELCOME WINTER TEXANS!!!
CASTAWAYS
SEAFOOD and GRILL
PRESENTS:

"Early Bird Specials"
January - March 1st

The price you pay is the time you arrive!!
5pm = \$5, 6pm = \$6, 6:45pm = \$6.75 etc...

EARLY BIRD MENU
Coffee, Tea, or Water Included

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Fish and Fries | Shrimp and Fries |
| Grilled Shrimp(3) & Rice | Grilled Chicken w/rice |
| Chicken Strips & Fries | Hamburger & Fries |
| Chicken Fried Steak w/fries | Chicken Fried Chicken w/fries |
| Tug Boat | Caesar Salad |

(8 U Peel em shrimp, 1 corn on the cob, 1 sausage, & 1 potato)

320 North Alister • 749-5394 • www.CastawaysPortA.com

Whoops!

Freddy Williams was incorrectly identified as a store clerk at the Stripes Convenience Store at the intersection of State Hwy. 361 and Beach Access Road 1-A. Williams actually is the manager of the Stripes store.

elida
nail boutique

134 N. Alister, #1 (361) 749-2005
(across from Cita's)