



NEWSLETTER: SPRING/SUMMER 2022

Fifth local festival attracts 239 birders, from 30 states, 47 percent above record!

Festival Chair Denise Housler says birders flocked in record numbers to Corpus Christi for the “Birdiest Festival in America’s” fifth year! Registration tallies for 2022 showed 239 birders, compared to 163 last year! Of those 239, 149 were Texans; while 90 came from 29 other states, another record compared to 18 other states last year!

More locals realized they lived in a birding mecca this year, as well. Nearly 44 percent of Texas birders were from Corpus Christi, or neighboring towns!

Veteran Festival Coordinator, Joel Simon, reports even with unseasonably strong, continuously gusting southerly winds throughout, and no fronts producing fall-outs like last year, this year’s April 20-24 festival yielded 267 different species, only four birds short of our record 2021—bringing our cumulative five-day FESTIVAL TOTAL, for five years, to 309 DIFFERENT SPECIES.

Pre and post-trips to the Rio Grande Valley and Upper Texas Coast added another 15 new species for a cumulative five-year GRAND TOTAL of 329 DIFFERENT SPECIES!

Keynote speaker—celebrated birder, author, illustrator David Allen Sibley—drew a large crowd to hear “What It’s Like to be a Bird,” also holding two book signings!

SIGHTING SPECIFICS:

- **33 warbler** species including rare *Townsend’s Warbler*.
- **25 shorebirds** with rarities *Brown Booby*, *Pomarine Jaeger*, *Sooty Tern*, *Lesser Black-backed Gull*.
- **New birds** at new Q5 Barnhart Ranch venue were late *Bufflehead* and *Wood Stork*; *Willow Flycatcher*, *Black-tailed Gnatcatcher* and *American Crow*.
- **“Best Bird”** from pre and post-trips was a *Painted Redstart* from Rio Grande Valley. Other new RGV birds were *Scaled Quail*, *Glaucous Gull*, *Gray Hawk*, *Elf Owl* and *Red-billed Pigeon*.
- **New birds from Upper Texas Coast** were *Red-headed, Downy, Hairy* and *Pileated Woodpeckers*; *Red Knot*, *Blue Jay*, *Brown-headed Nuthatch*, *Nelson’s Sparrow*.



MOTTLED DUCKS, Denise Housler



DAVID ALLEN SIBLEY, Debbie Noble



BALTIMORE ORIOLE, Denise Housler





Registration Opens
December 1, for
Birdiest Festival in America
April 26-30, 2023!
WWW.BIRDIESTFESTIVAL.ORG



SUPER BIRDERS' Malden and Kathleen Black, CA; and Warren Parker, NC; went on both pre and post-trips, several field trips, attended presentations, many other Festival activities!



**BIRDIEST
CHECK LIST,**
Debbie Noble



**JONATHAN WOOD
of RAPTOR PROJECT
with UNCLE SAM!**
Debbie Noble



SUMMER TANAGER,
Denise Housler

PRESENTING SPONSOR



BIG BLOOM returns in BIG way—crowd, plants & income!

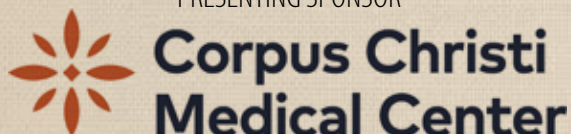


The Coastal Bend proved it missed BIG BLOOM during its two-year hiatus! April 2, cars lined up north to Yorktown waiting to enter the Gardens.

The \$2 Community Day, presented by CORPUS CHRISTI MEDICAL CENTER, drew more than 4500 guests spending \$42,500 on plants; \$9000 on memberships; \$2800 on vendor merchandise; and \$2400 in the Gift Shop!

With butterfly and ladybug releases, plus parrot and reptile events, countless plant lovers enjoyed a perfect BIG BLOOM day, netting the Botanical Gardens & Nature Center a record \$47,000!

PRESENTING SPONSOR



Dallas landscape architecture / urban design firm, Studio Outside, creating new Gardens Master Plan

Last fall, we announced a \$100,000 donation from June and Steve Herbst would fund most of a new Master Plan for the Botanical Gardens, allowing us to redefine and gradually build out developable elevations of the site, about 18 acres, including ample parking. A much larger multi-function Visitors Center tops the needs list, with more floral gardens, bigger indoor education space and spacious indoor event venue.

In January, the board approved the Proposal Committee's recommendation to hire Studio Outside of Dallas. A Discovery Committee of 24, selected from board, staff and community Stakeholders, has met twice for workshops with Studio Outside design team.

In April, two basic conceptual plans were presented; the entire committee agreeing on one. Adjustments are underway; the next meeting set for July 7.

Studio Outside's design goals:

- Excellence in Facilities / Guest Experience
- New Entrance Road Experience
- Intuitive Welcome / Arrival Sequence
- Perimeter Landscape / Securing Campus
- Shade and Wind Protection
- Becoming a Primary Local Attraction
- Growing Visitation / Revenue
- Friendly Paths / Routes
- Diverse Audience; Repeat Visits
- Embracing the Arts
- On-Site Wastewater Facility (*no city sewer*)

At process completion, we'll have costs for specific features and the entire build-out, rendering illustrations, and fundraising tools designed for a capital campaign.

Design site team includes (*at right, top to bottom*) Andrew Duggan and Amy Bartell; architects Brian Korte and German Spiller, of Clayton Korte, Austin; and Rick Daley of EMD Consulting (*economic strategies*).

At April 28 workshop, part of DISCOVERY COMMITTEE presents opinions to rest of group, after comparing two preliminary plan choices.



planning for another perfect starry night,
the Botanical Gardens & Nature Center announces . . .



MOONLIGHT in the GARDENS

6-9:30 pm
Friday, October 7

Food and Beverage Stations
Signature Drinks

Music Venues
Traditional Silent Auction
Garden Strolls

Fun with Friends
Casual Attire
Valet Parking



Sponsorships available now
Contact Michael Womack, wmmomack@stxbot.org, 361-852-2100, for details.

Exotic parrot collection takes unplanned vacation!

You may have noticed empty parrot housing on a recent excursion to the Botanical Gardens.

"Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza" (HPAI) has been confirmed in Texas by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). The Botanical Gardens & Nature Center is taking every precaution to keep our parrots safe and healthy. For that reason, they will remain behind the scenes, away from outdoor habitats and public access until the threat has passed.

Exhibited outdoors, our parrots are especially vulnerable to wild bird contamination. Animal Care staff are following recommendations from U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), our veterinarian, and TPWD to help stop spread of this deadly virus.

Human infection of HPAI is rare. However, *humans unknowingly can carry airborne or solid contamination on shoes or clothing, to bird habitats.*

Private Parrot Interactions and Parrot Talk programs temporarily have been suspended. We will be monitoring HPAI closely, adjusting protocols accordingly.

"Staff and volunteers can tell the parrots miss their people as much as visitors miss the parrots," said Animal Care Coordinator Dedra Benedict. "We're sorry to disappoint our guests, and will all be happier when the birds are back on their perches chatting with their friends!"



CARING FOR THE COASTAL BEND

The Port of Corpus Christi is proud to sponsor the South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center.



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Texas Parks & Wildlife Department awards \$60,000 grant for two years of youth camps!

South Texas Botanical Gardens has received a two year Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) Community Outdoor Outreach Program (CO-OP) grant for equipment, supplies, additional staffing and need-based scholarships for its week-long, half-day summer, intercession and scout camps; and Junior Volunteer Program.

"Kids Summer Nature Camps" 2022 is the first beneficiary of the \$60,000 grant, which increased number of students in the seven camps—half qualifying for need-based scholarships, with some still available. Contact: brendae@stxbot.org. (see *Calendar*, page 10).



Life's better outside.®
PROUD PARTNER

Part-time fundraising position open at Gardens

Are you looking for that enjoyable, challenging and rewarding position to fill some of your spare time, but still leave time for yourself? Did you retire early, living comfortably, but with too much spare time?

South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, a 501(c)(3) self-sustained non-profit visitor attraction, currently is seeking a part-time DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR, to work 20-30 hours per week. This person will assist in raising funds to ensure longevity of the organization, by exploring and strengthening relationships with current and potential individual, business, corporate and foundation donors.

This person also will be responsible for identifying funding challenges and opportunities, and increasing sustainable funding.

A solid candidate will have:

- ▶ Undergraduate degree; or substantial progressive college coursework.
- ▶ Minimum 5-8 years employment experience.
- ▶ Previous experience of major gift solicitation for non-profits.
- ▶ Excellent communication skills—organized, concise, quality writing capability, plus strong verbal and interpersonal skills.
- ▶ Comfortable and personable with face-to-face meetings.
- ▶ Ability to multi-task, meet deadlines, and work independently.
- ▶ Detail-oriented with exceptional organizational and time management skills.
- ▶ Strong computer and database experience.
- ▶ Large, established community contact base; active and known in community.

This is a staff position, reporting to Executive Director, up to \$25 hourly pay. Benefits available at 30 hours per week. Mileage reimbursement with documentation. Onsite office provided.

IF INTERESTED AND QUALIFIED,
please contact: wmwomack@stxbot.org.

PLUMERIA back in ground, and BLOOMING!

Seems like last week when Plumeria Society of South Texas volunteers brought bare-root "sticks" out of the greenhouse, to replant in Plumeria Garden, and wait! That was early March. You should see them now!



un poquito.

NOUN

TRANSLATION: A LITTLE BIT

Cutting your water usage a little bit goes a long way.

CCTEXAS.COM/CONSERVE

#cctxconserve



WATER UTILITIES

Proudly serving the Coastal Bend
since 1852

MEMBERSHIP: What you get • how to join!

- ✓ Free General Admission (12 months)
- ✓ American Horticulture Society **RECIPROCAL ADMISSION PROGRAM**
(FREE admission to 350 Gardens in US) listing at www.ahsgardening.org/rap
- ✓ 10% Discount at: **Turner's Gardenland**
(with valid STBGNC Member Card & ID) (excludes labor, sale items)
Feathered Friends & Co. (excludes birds)
- ✓ **FREE Better Homes & Gardens OR Martha Stewart Living Magazine Subscription**
- ✓ 10% Discount at **Nature's Boutique** year-round (STBGNC Gift Shop)
- ✓ 10% Discount at **BIG BLOOM** Plant Sale
- ✓ Substantial Class & Kids Camp Discounts
(most Saturday seminars free for members)
- ✓ Facilities Rental Privileges
- ✓ Newsletter Event Invitations Window Decal



ALSO JOIN ONLINE, WWW.STXBOT.ORG

☐ Renewal or Former Member ☐ New Member

Membership Category MARK SELECTION

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$ 35
<input type="checkbox"/> Couple *	\$ 50
<input type="checkbox"/> Family *	\$ 75
<input type="checkbox"/> Grandparent **	\$ 75
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining (Family or GP + 2 guests)	\$ 100
<input type="checkbox"/> Supporting (Family or GP + 4 guests)	\$ 250
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron (Family or GP + 6 guests)	\$ 500
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor (Family or GP + 10 guests)	\$1000

* (Couple, Family: Must be Same Household)

** (Grandparents: Includes grandchildren / greatgrandchildren under age 18)

Age 60+ / Active Military may take 10% off the membership level of their choice

PHOTOGRAPHER MEMBERSHIP, for you & clients-\$150/year!

Member Information PLEASE PRINT

NAMES (S)

STREET ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE (S)

E-MAIL

AMT \$ _____ CASH _____ CK# _____

☐ MC ☐ Visa ☐ DISCOVER ☐ AMX

ACCT #

NAME ON ACCT

EXPIRATION 3 DIGIT SECURITY CODE

SIGNATURE

PLEASE MAIL TO: South Texas Botanical Gardens
8545 S. Staples St. ■ Corpus Christi, Texas 78413

Animals visit The Mirador; return with \$826 donation from its Farmer's Market!

Our southside neighbor, The Mirador, held a "Farmer's Market" for residents, Earth Day, April 22, raising \$826 from resident arts and crafts sales and local vendor donations.

The Botanical Gardens was selected by Mirador's **Activities Committee** as funds recipient! Animal Care staff, volunteers and traveling reptiles, including Ivan the Iguana, visited The Mirador for check presentation, and social time May 11. Resident, Gardens donor and former volunteer Dewitt Harvey spoke briefly about the Gardens & Nature Center's importance to the community, and its growth.



DeWitt Harvey



(From left), Reign Durrent, Lindsey Durrent, Michael Womack, Dedra Benedict.

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SCAN ME



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Like us on Facebook: @ccwasteplace

WEEKEND VISITOR /ANIMAL EVENTS

(Included in general admission, Members free)

REP-TALES

Saturdays, Sundays, 10:30 am

Meet, pet, learn about, and often feed several Resident Reptiles, with trainers, usually on Festival Lawn area.



PARROT TALK

(Hoping to bring back soon, see p. 6)

Meet, greet, chat and learn about our most personable Exotic parrots with their trainers and volunteers.

CLASS PROTOCOL, until further notice:

Up to 30 in-person, ZOOM Available.

RESERVATIONS, Zoom Links,

361-852-2100.

Free with Membership, Admission—or \$5.

(SATURDAY CLASSES BEGIN AT 9:30 AM.)

ORCHID-LOGY, a FREE monthly discussion group of orchid enthusiasts of all levels, at 7 pm, the first Thursday of each month, Education Station. Questions welcome; or bring a problem orchid to be diagnosed. Reservations up to 20 in-person; or ZOOM link available. 361-852-2100.



FATHERS' DAY FREE WEEKEND

Saturday, Sunday, June 18, 19. Just say, "It's Fathers' Day," and Dad gets in free Saturday & Sunday, Fathers' Day weekend! Be "buds" with Dad, enjoy REP-TALES, 10:30; gardens, resident reptiles, Gator Lake, trails, other guy stuff! Sorry only dads are free—all other non-members pay general admission. Buy Dad a membership this weekend, at 20% off for a year of free admission plus RECIPROCAL GARDENS benefits!

FOURTH - OFF FOR 4TH!

Sunday, July 4, 9-6. Celebrate AMERICA'S NATURAL BEAUTY at the Botanical Gardens with 25% off admission on Independence Day, a "big bang" for your bucks! Just \$6.75 ages 13-59; \$5.25 Sr / Active Military / College; \$3.75 ages 3-12. Under 3 & Members free! Bring a picnic; dogs on leash; but NO FIREWORKS allowed.

July 23: PLUMERIA PASSIONS. A week before its big sale, Plumeria Society's Renee Brown will discuss tips on purchasing and raising these exotic, tropical beauties, and lead a tour of the Gardens & Nature Center's impressive Plumeria Garden and Willoughby Viewing Platform.

Annual Plumeria Society Sale!

Saturday, July 30, 10-1, Garden Senior Center, 5325 Greeley. Cuttings and rooted plants, named and unnamed varieties, will be sold, with proceeds benefitting the Botanical Gardens Plumeria exhibit.



August 6: BACK TO BASICS – LANDSCAPE REJUVENATION. Kathy Hubner, Landscape Designer at Gill Landscape Nursery, will provide ideas from her years of experience of how to take your boring landscape and add new life by applying principles of design to your existing yard. Jazz up those old "mustache" landscapes to create a vibrant new look with curb appeal making your yard the envy of the neighborhood.

August 13: WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, HOW OF FALL VEGETABLE GARDENING. These great gardening guidelines by STBG Horticulturist Carol Krank give you specific plans for what, when, where, and how to plant your vegetable choices, including proven maintenance, fertilization and insect prevention methods, with charts and instruction sheets available.

August 20: MAGIC OF MULTIPLYING PLANTS. Nueces Master Gardener Fred Pena provides insights to successfully starting plants from your garden and patio with this hands-on workshop. Bring cuttings you want to propagate. Other supplies will be furnished. Walk away with a new treasure for your patio plant collection.

August 27: FRUIT TREES FOR SOUTH TEXAS. Discover best fruit tree varieties for our area from Nueces Master Gardener Renee Brown, along with planting, pruning and fertilizing techniques to increase the bounty from your backyard.

September 10: PREPARING FOR LESS WATER. This spring's drought reminds us we always need to be prepared to conserve water in our landscapes. Joanne Salge, Nueces Master Gardener and Xeriscape Corpus Christi chair teaches practical application of water conservation principles with easy ways to transition existing landscape into water-smart areas, able to economically survive yearround, especially in hot summer months.

September 17: TROPICAL LANDSCAPE

Lessons Learned From Big Freeze . Nueces County Extension Horticulture Agent Kevin Gibbs talks about tropical landscape options, giving insights on plants which survived the unusually cold weather; and plants in extended freeze recovery process.

September 24: STOP THE BLEED. Too often gardeners focus on plants more than themselves, but garden safety should always be a priority. Learn about garden first aid and safety from Spohn Hospital Shoreline's Jennifer Carr to prevent your garden endeavors from becoming a trip to the ER.

MOONLIGHT in the GARDENS

Friday, October 7, 6-9:30 pm Last year, "Moonlight" returned to the Gardens, with 600 guests enjoying a hugely successful evening of food, drink, music venues; silent auction; plenty of mingling and fun. Once again, presented by CITGO, Corpus Christi Refinery—with dozens of Gardens Stewardship sponsors supporting Gardens maintenance and upgrades throughout this year! (see page 5)



partners with the Botanical Gardens & Nature Center, coordinating Adult Education Classes for this calendar!

October 15: ALL ABOUT HOYAS. Learn all about these amazingly beautiful and easy succulent vines called "wax plants" from avid Hoya grower and enthusiast, Lalita Baelow, who has too many hoyas to list!

Oct. 22: BONSAI BASICS. Learn how to create your own "tiny tree" from Corpus Christi Bonsai Club's Betty Whitt (also a Nueces Master Gardener) and Linda May. Discover techniques to create these living works of art providing years of solace and relaxation, as well as a conversation piece for your patio.

October 29: THANKFUL FOR FLOWERS. Want to have a memorable Thanksgiving feast at your house? Don't forget the flowers. Golden Petal Florist's Tara Craig will show you ideas to create your own holiday floral arrangements to WOW your family and guests.

November 5: TREES FOR SOUTH TEXAS. Fall is tree planting season in South Texas. Nueces Master Gardener Carlos Valdez give insights for best trees, planting techniques, along with pruning and care tips.

November 12: KEEPING YOUR HOLIDAY PLANTS JOLLY. STBG Horticulture Specialist Whitney Lance shares tips and techniques to keep your holiday plants in top shape well into the New Year.

HOLLY DAYS at the GARDENS

November 25/26 • December 2/3 • 9/10 • 16/17
Special holiday weekends celebrating the joys of the season around a beautiful 20' fresh-cut lighted fir tree! Friday & Saturday EVENINGS—open until 7:30 to view lighting displays and trees; hayrides, cocoa, cider, s'mores over fire pits—and SANTA! SATURDAYS, 9-6—See SANTA, holiday photo ops, hay rides, kids' crafts, petting zoo, animal ambassadors. Most activities covered by general admission. Presented by VALERO. More details TBA.



Kids Summer Nature Camps

are sponsored by Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, including NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS, still available for some of the camps below. (All tuition-paid camp spots have been filled.) For questions and scholarship information, contact brendae@stxbot.org, 361-852-2100 (see article, page. 6)

Camp sessions are designed with exciting animal interactions & engaging nature activities in a safe environment—placing youth in "nature's laboratory!"

Led by Education and Animal Care staff, and trained volunteers, the varied-theme summer camps split into pods, learning together the entire week. Activities include daily science investigations, nature models and journaling. Camp shirt, snacks and drinks are provided.



Life's better outside.®
PROUD PARTNER

June 6-10	Feathers & Scales	Ages 6-8
June 13-17	Snakes & Friends	Ages 9-12
June 20-24	Tiny Critters	Ages 6-8
June 27-July 1	Nature Buddies	Ages 6-8
July 11-15	Nature Shutterbugs	Ages 9-14
July 11-15	Mammal Art Camp	Ages 9-14
July 18-22	Girl Scout Camp	
	(Daisy-Brownie-Junior groups)	

(Campers should wear hats, close-toed shoes, sunscreen; And bring a water bottle, extra snack, sunglasses.)



PRIVATE ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS

REPTILE ROOM ENCOUNTER

Great for Birthday Parties-Fun with Friends

Interact with and learn about at least three of our scaly Animal Ambassadors!

Take photos in the Reptile Room, closed to the public during your session. Each guest can hold 1 animal; and your group will help staff offer Animal Ambassadors a snack!

1-6 people 15 minutes \$30
6-10 people 20 minutes \$45

(more than 10 will split into 2 encounters, or request party information)

Scheduling/questions: dedrab@stxbot.org, 361-852-2100.

GRANTS, LARGE DONATIONS, SPONSORSHIPS

AEP Texas
City of Corpus Christi Arts
& Cultural Commission
Coastal Bend Bays
& Estuaries Program
Corpus Christi Medical Center
Flint Hills Resources
H-E-B
NavyArmy Community
Credit Union
Port Corpus Christi
Swarovski Optik North America
Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Dorothy Burger
Ruth Camp
Corpus Christi Bonsai Club
Brandon Cox
Rebecca and David Crow
Nicole Hagopian
Deborah & Sam Isaacs
Emily Moench
Mirador Retirement Community
Elizabeth O'Brien
Marian Alaback Rable
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CORPORATE MEMBERS

\$2,000

CITGO

\$1,000

Valero

\$500

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& Landscape
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MDR Advertising

\$250

Aquaria Services

\$100

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PHOTOGRAPHER

Ashley Compton Photography
Faithful Witness Photography
Shoocha Photography
Samantha & Matthew Clark
Photography

NEW MEMBERS

(since last issue)

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Cherry & Hix Green

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Gabrielle Pena
& Elizabeth Salazar
Jerome & Cindy Lee Sang
Carol & Andy Savas
Sultana de Braza
& Mary Saylor
Cindy & Joseph Schappe
Charles & Kyla Scholz
David & Melissa Segers
Sunni & Kyle Seifert
Sara Livingston
& Joseph Sereda
Keely Smith & Tyler Snell
Cameron Cabrera
& Lucirelia Sosa
Jo Ann Reta Strahan
Gary Sudhoff
Gail & David Thompson
Jaishree Ellis
& Eleanor Thompson
Amanda & Nicholas Tousseau
Akosua Donkor Twumasi
Kim Cardenas
& Michael Villarreal
Cody Moravits & Lily Walker
Mitch & Michelle Wallace
Michelle & Wayne Wiiki
Tasha Wilson
Merritt Wrulde
Tong Sang & Tai Po
Jaclynn Young
Amanda & Robert Ysassi

INDIVIDUAL

Laura Aaron
Janet Acebo
Tom Andrews
Sandra Baldazo
Susan Barnes
Sandra Beckmann
Efigenia J. Bello
Mai T Bernal
Bayna Blake
Bobbie J Bramel
Ruth Brillhart
Judith Briscoe
Debra Brooks
Erica Carreon
Stephanie Castaneda
Marie V Castillo
Meagan Castillo
Samantha Castillo
Abigail Chapa
Valerie Chiles

Jackie Coffman
Rosie Cortez
Sherry Cotingham
Joanne Cunningham
Heather Dale
Maria Danley
Susan Daubenspeck
Margie Durst
Nelwyn B Erck
Leah Fuentes
Catalina Galvan
Sara Garcia
Shirley Garcia
Belinda Garman
Patricia Glass
Susan Gonzales
Tom Goodwin
Skyler Grahwohl
Evelyn Grevelle
Cindy Hanifen
Pilar Hernandez
Susana Holland
Baldemar Huerta
Mercelese Huggins
Rachel Hurd
Jonnie Inglesias
Nancy Jackson
Kasie Jaegers
Francoise Kieschnick
Svitlana Kovalenko
Pamela Larson
Susie Lee
Raymond Linenberger
Briana Martinez
Rick McDaniel
Karen McFarland
Elizabeth McGauley
Chris McGee
Lisa A McKelvey
Marianne McKenzie
Connie McKinney
Thelma Medrano
Sondra Meyer
Rebecca Mokry
David Moore
Anna Mosiman
Beth Moss
Olivia Oballe
Kayla Otahal
Janet Pitchford
Kathleen Pratt
Debra Reid
Suzanne Richey
Lyneia Rike
Caterina S Rincon
Imelda Rodriguez
Rogelio Rodriguez
Sylvia Rosenbaum
Jacqueline Rosier
Mark Ruiz
Cecilia Salinas
Shere Salinas
Earl Schmiedekamp
Laurie Schofield
Patricia Schramm
Sherry Sherron
Arlene Sigurdson
Monica Silva
Yolanda O Silva
Karen Smithwick
Al Stensland
Cheryl Sutherlan
Susan Thiem
Chelsea Tower
Susie Vansteel
Marcella Venegas
Brittney Villarreal
Michelle Webster
Thomas Wellar
Dracinda Westbrook
Nathan Wilkey
Susan Wilkins
Samantha Youngblood
Kayla Zetuche



**FATHER'S DAY
FREE WEEKEND**

June 18, 19
(Calendar, page 9/10)



**FOURTH OFF
FOR THE 4TH**

July 4
(Calendar, page 9/10)



**PLUMERIA SOCIETY
SALE**

July 30
(Calendar, page 9/10)

OPEN DAILY, 9am - 6pm (except Thanksgiving Day, December 24, 25) • 8545 S. Staples St. • Corpus Christi, Texas 78413 • 361-852-2100 • Fax 361-852-7875
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WE NEED YOUR GREEN PLASTIC BOTTLES – 3,500 OF THEM!

South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center has received an \$11,750 grant from the City of Corpus Christi Arts & Cultural Commission to create unique art from recycled materials for the winter-vacant Plumeria Garden! The centerpiece of this seasonal exhibit will be an 18-foot holiday tree of recycled green bottles, by local artist **Shelia Rogers**, known for her fascinating creations from repurposed materials.

We need your help collecting 3,500 green plastic bottles, any size, with lids. While the holidays are months away, collecting them now allows Shelia to begin construction. Please drop these off at the Gift Shop 9am-6pm daily; or at 915 Furman Ave., Corpus Christi.



“The heart of my work is environmental advocacy, seductively exposing real and devastating effects of plastic pollution on the world's oceans. My intent is to raise awareness of this pressing consumer and environmental issue, while motivating viewers toward a plasticuse reduction revolution.”

beachcombing. She has attended workshops with art masters around the world, studying in France, Hungary, India, Morocco, Russia, Spain; and California, New Mexico, New York, Texas and Washington.

This photo is an 1800-water bottle chandelier, first displayed at Corpus Christi International Airport, now at Texas A&M Corpus Christi.

