



MARINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

I want to thank several members of our county for agreeing to serve on the Marine Advisory Committee: Norman Boyd, Herb Wittliff, Kay McPherson, Teri Austin, Jack LaBarge, Terry Whitaker, Sherrie Krause, Shelly Crow, Philip Bird, Robert Sanders, and Jim Munro.

These individuals will help me plan programs that are meaningful to our coastal businesses and residents. The committee has been dormant for some time now, so it means even more to have these individuals stepping forward to assist me.

If anyone else is interested in becoming involved, just email or phone me. There will also be opportunities to work on specific task forces as projects and programs are refined. We can make a difference in our county.

LOW POWER RADIO

We are making progress towards getting on the air but still have volunteer opportunities available to any and all that would like to help write or record radio script segments. We can always use more writers, editors, proofreaders, subject matter experts, radio voices, etc.

Remember, our goal is to teach people about the rich local history, wildlife, flora, fauna, wetland ecology, beach safety, and other related topics. Our plan is to be on the air before summer starts.

Please help me collect as many tennis ball cans as possible. Just save them and either drop them off at my office at the Calhoun County Fairgrounds, or give me a call. We'll work out a pick-up.



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Coastal & Marine Resource News

Calhoun County
April 2009

HAPPY EASTER!



LA SALLE SHIPWRECK PROJECT

The *Belle* is one of the most important shipwrecks ever discovered in North America. The excavation, conducted in a cofferdam in Matagorda Bay, lasted almost a year and produced an amazing array of finds, including the hull of the ship, three bronze cannons, thousands of glass beads, bronze hawk bells, pottery and even the skeleton of a crewmember. The one million artifacts represent a kit for building a 17th-century European colony in the New World. (<http://www.thc.state.tx.us/belle/>)

CRISP BAKED FISH

2 lbs. skinless fish fillets
¼ cup milk
¼ teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons melted margarine
1 cup finely crushed cornflakes,
bread or cracker crumbs

Cut fish into serving size portions.
Combine milk and salt in a flat pan and
place crushed cornflakes or crumbs in
another pan. Dip fish portions in milk,
then in cornflakes. Place on prepared
baking sheet. Drizzle Fish with margarine.
Bake at 350 degrees for 10 minutes per
inch of fish thickness.

ADOPT-A-BEACH

Seems like it's almost that time again, so
grab the sunscreen and come on down
on Saturday, **April 25th**. Check in time
is at **9 a.m.** and the cleanup lasts until
noon, rain or shine!

Check in for the **Magnolia Beach**
cleanup is at the Crabbin' Bridge. The
site co-coordinator is Sheri McMahan.
Contact her at 713-557-0676 or
magnoliabeach@texasadoptabeach.org
for more details.

In Port O'Connor, check in at the
Kingfisher Beach Park with Debbie
Gayle. Her contact number is 361-983-

4647 or by email at
debbie.gayle@texasadoptabeach.org

Don't forget to pick a site and call the
coordinator. Wear sunscreen, shoes,
sunglasses, and a hat. Bring plenty of
drinking water. Be careful not to disturb
the habitat of nesting shorebirds.

I will be where Hwy 87 ends at **Bay Front
Park** in Port Lavaca with the tandem
kayaks for anyone wanting to help me
clean areas inaccessible by land. I need
some seasoned paddlers to help with this
cleanup effort along our city's recreational
area.

April 22, 1970, is considered by some to
be the first Earth Day, marking the
beginning of the modern environmental
movement. Since you probably cannot get
off work to pitch in on that Wednesday,
come on down Saturday to help beautify
Calhoun County for our neighbors and
ourselves.

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

As I complete my work with Sea Grant on
the economic loss assessment of the
fisheries infrastructure in Galveston Bay
and Sabine Lake caused by Hurricane Ike,
the calendar moves us ever closer to the
start of the 2009 Hurricane Season.

One can only hope that this season will be
less destructive than last year. A record -
setting six consecutive named storms

made landfall in the United States, and
three of them were in Texas: Dolly,
Edouard, and Ike. As we all know, hoping
is not always enough. So please look for
opportunities to learn more about how
you and your family can have a plan of
action and stock up on your supplies early
as different items go on sale.

Port Lavaca Harbormaster Jim O'Neil and
I are planning a workshop for boaters to
be held at the Fairgrounds' Ag Building on
the morning of Saturday, May 16th. Save
the date and more details will follow next
month.

EMAIL OR U.S. POST?

If I have an e-mail address for you, I am
sending this to you via the internet. If I only
have a mailing address for you, I am sending
this to you by the postal service. If you
would prefer to receive this newsletter via e-
mail, send me an e-mail at
rdcummins@ag.tamu.edu so I will have
your address. Likewise, if you would really
rather receive this in a stamped envelope, let
me know that too. Also, if you know of
someone who would like to receive this
newsletter, let me know who they are so I
can add them to the list.

THIS NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE ONLINE @ <http://calhoun-tx.tamu.edu>

Extension Programs serve people of all ages
regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex,
religion, disability, or national origin. The Texas
A&M University System, U.S. Department of
Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts
of Texas Cooperating.