

people

FLC birding team takes trips to GISP, Big Tree, Aranzazu

Fulton Learning Center (FLC) birding team members took a local field trip Saturday, Feb. 27 to Goose Island State Park (GISP), Lamar's Big Tree, and Camp Aranzazu.

The team was surprised to find a Ruby-throated Hummingbird while at GISP. They also observed Whooping Cranes, Sandhill Cranes, and an Osprey consuming a fish along Lamar Beach Road.

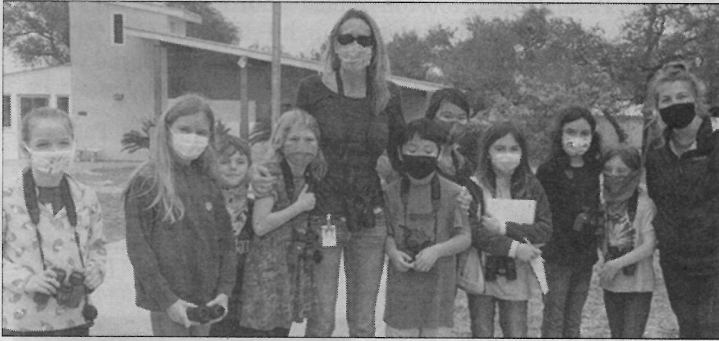
Their last stop was Aranzazu, where students were greeted by Camp Director Amelia Haslam Smith and Assistant Camp Director Amanda Praet. Smith and Praet guided students on

a tour of the facility and also handed gave away some t-shirts.

While at Aranzazu, 5th grader Kinslee Burton spotted a Merlin perched on a post consuming a smaller bird. In total, students found and logged 53 species of birds.

FLC students on the trip were Ella Buckley, Haidyn Garcia, Sara Goode, Bryant Manning, Kayden Tran, Hollis Weems, Kennedy Vonhartmann-Engel, Kinslee Burton, Jacinta Pham, Riley Waggoner, and Logann Wood.

Students were accompanied by FLC school sponsor Martha McLeod.



FLC students take a group photo with their FLC school sponsor Martha McLeod, middle, and Camp Aranzazu Director Amelia Haslam Smith, right. Contributed photo

1,000 continued from 1A

Seniors" program administered by the Texas Division of Emergency Management.

Rockport Mayor Pat Rios posted a letter at the conclusion of Wednesday's clinic.

(Note: One can read the mayor's message in its entirety at www.rockportpilot.com, www.cityofrockport.com, The Rockport Pilot's Facebook page, and various other social media pages.)

"We were able to show that Aransas County can run a successful, large-scale vaccination clinic for its residents," said Rios. "Almost 1,000 doses were administered (Wednesday) with the remainder being transferred to a secure holding station in Refugio."

Local officials faced some obstacles, including timing (Spring Break), and a delay in registration until Monday, after access to the vaccines was verified.

"I would like to extend my personal thanks to Aransas County Medical Services, Inc. Executive Director Patricia Arnold and her volunteers, as well as to the countless city, county and Aransas County Navigation District employees that worked so hard to make this event a success," said the mayor.

During the two-day registration period more than 6,000 calls were made to individuals on the Aransas County Wait list.

"Many didn't answer and voice mails were left," said Rios. A large number of people on the list had already received their vaccinations or were waiting for the Johnson & Johnson vaccine."

Rios noted due to some glitches with the DSHS registration program, and to help expedite people getting a vaccine, a registration announcement was posted on the City's website and Facebook page, and shared with a dozen social media sites.

"We apologize to those who had to duplicate efforts, but we felt it was the best method for the short time frame and the inability to staff the phone bank as the volunteers were working at the clinic (Wednesday)," said Rios. "We know the wait has been difficult and appreciate your taking the initiative to get the vaccine elsewhere."

Rios said more than 3,800 Aransas County residents have received at least one dose, and 2,263 are fully vaccinated. Those figures are from Tuesday, and do not include the 100 doses admin-

istered at the 75+ event.

"For those who are waiting on the Johnson & Johnson vaccine we have no idea what the supply situation is for the State of Texas. What we do know, is that vaccination events will only be advised when we know what vaccine is being provided the day before," said Rios.

The Moderna vaccine was distributed Tuesday. The Pfizer vaccine was used Wednesday.

"It is not our place to judge or recommend, but only to let people know that waiting for a particular vaccine may take longer," said the mayor.

Aransas County, Rockport, and Fulton officials continue pushing through all avenues possible to get more of these events for the community.

"We've demonstrated that it can be done, and that we have the drive and initiative to overcome setbacks," said Rios.

He noted Wednesday was the first day of the new "Open To Plan" and encouraged everyone to continue safety protocols.

Businesses, restaurants, retailers and government offices continue to require face coverings and temperature checks if they so choose.

MASK continued from 2A

James Bass. "Far too many of these crashes are deadly because of the failure to buckle up. Wearing a seat belt is the single most effective thing you can do to protect yourself in a crash. Click it and be safe."

Gary Borders is a veteran

award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. Email: gborders@texaspress.com.

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What God Cannot Do

"God is not human, that he should lie, not a human being, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?"
Numbers 23:19 NIV




There is an old joke about the wisecrack who asks the Sunday School teacher if God can make a rock so big that He Himself cannot lift it. Either way of answering results in something God cannot do. The short answer to this paradox is that the description of the rock is logically contradictory (an object make 2+2=5 is not a weakness on God's part, but rather a consequence of the fact that even God must obey the laws of logic. What would the world be like if 2+2 could equal anything other than 4?)

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