

ISLAND VIBES

the Official Newsletter for the City of South Padre Island

CITY SPOTLIGHT

This week we caught up with South Padre Island's Fire/EMS Medical Director, Dr. R. Joe Ybarra. Dr. Ybarra earned his degree from Baylor College of Medicine and has lived on South Padre Island since 1994. He helped begin a satellite clinic with Valley Baptist in 2000 and has since opened his own Private Practice & Wellness Clinic, both right here on the Island.



In his 35 years as a physician, Dr. Ybarra has spent 30 of those years volunteering as EMS Medical Director. As Medical Director, he serves as the medical authority for all South Padre Island Paramedics with any medical encounters occurring under his supervision or delegation. Of his work as director, Dr. Ybarra shared, "Paramedics/Fire and Police are our unsung heroes and I consider it a privilege to do my part as the leader of the EMS team."

For this year's Spring Break, Dr. Ybarra says, "the devil is in the details!" when it comes to planning for the Island's busiest time of year. Just like prior years, the EMS team will apply their past experiences to provide the best care.

Dr. Ybarra had these final thoughts for the community: "The pandemic has taught us a lot about priorities in public health. The important take away is we're all in this together. I'm committed to continuing to serve healthcare needs and welcome all who want to participate in this endeavor."

STAY IN THE KNOW

CITY EVENTS

Saturday • February 12, 2022, 9 p.m.

Head over to SPI's Entertainment District to view an amazing Valentine's themed firework display!

Monday • February 14, 2022, 5:30 p.m.

Spend Valentine's Day playing Puppy Dog Bingo with Friends of Animal Rescue at The Inn on South Padre.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Tuesday • February 15, 2022

9 AM - Economic Development Corporation
2 PM - Special Events Committee

Wednesday • February 16, 2022

9 AM - Parks & Keep SPI Beautiful Committee
5:30 PM - City Council Meeting

Thursday • February 17, 2022

3 PM - Planning and Zoning Commission

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COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT

The City will be hosting a Workshop and Open House this month at City Hall!

The Shoreline Task Force Workshop will focus on the Laguna Madre Living Shoreline project. The community is encouraged to join discussion of the project and hear an update from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) about their bayside data collection.

The Open House will focus on The Island Way Comprehensive Plan. The finalized plan will serve as the long term planning guide for growth and development on South Padre Island. Members of the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee will be available to discuss the plan, answer questions, and hear feedback from the community. To view the final draft of the Island Way Comprehensive Plan, click [here](#).

The Laguna Madre Living Shoreline Workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, February 22nd, at 1:30 p.m. The Island Way Comprehensive Plan Open House is scheduled for Monday, February 28th, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

We look forward to having the community join us in City Hall and hearing your feedback for the future of South Padre Island.

Follow us on social media!

PET OF THE
WEEK

Beautiful Dixie is Friends of Animal Rescue's Pet of the Week! She's a female puppy between 12-and-16-weeks-old. Little Dixie is playful, friendly, and so loving. She's being taught to walk on a lead, learn basic commands, and is already completely potty-trained! If you think you can be Dixie's *fur*-ever home, fill out an adoption application with Friends of Animal Rescue by clicking [HERE](#). Or give them a call at 956-772-1171.

Can't adopt? Don't worry, you can still help! Reach out to Friends of Animal Rescue to donate, volunteer or become a foster. Help is always appreciated!

JOIN TEAM SPI

The City of South Padre Island is hiring! We offer great benefits like medical, vision and dental plans covered at 100%, a 2-to-1 match in the Texas Municipal Retirement System, competitive pay, plus more. [Apply](#) to become a part of our extraordinary team today!

- **Sales Manager:** Full-Time
- **Police Officer:** Temporary & Part-Time
- **Traffic Control:** Temporary
- **Maintenance:** Full-Time & Part-Time
- **Firefighter:** Full-Time & Part-Time

More positions and information available [here](#).