



Spring 2020

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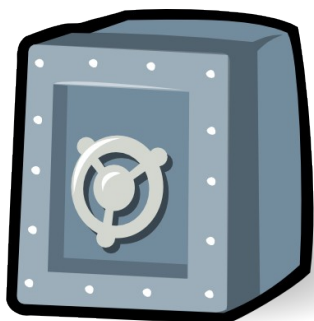
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Features in this Issue

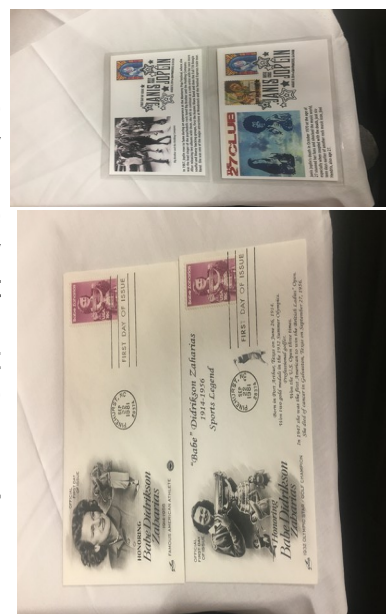
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The Museum of the Gulf Coast presents a selection from our collection not currently on display:



The United States Postal service has a long history of commemorating significant historical events and cultural icons by adorning postage stamps with their image. These are prized by many collectors and even rarer are the stamps marked "First Day of Issue." Pictured right are just three of an extensive collection of First Day envelopes and postage honoring two Southeast Texas Icons; Babe Zaharias and Janis Joplin. The envelopes bear the year of issue and a short description of the honorary subject. The collection includes multiple Babe Zaharias editions and seven different Janis Joplin editions, each detail different points of their careers. Collection graciously donated by Martin Severe.



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New Features and Museum Updates!

The Museum recently unveiled its newest interactive exhibit, an Augmented Reality Topographical Sandbox. Using a Linux based program, the sandbox is equipped with a projector and camera mount that reads the height of the sand beneath it and projects a colorful map onto the sand that changes as the sand is shifted and moved by the user. The colors and lines that are projected onto the sand reflect the topographical data that the camera is reading. The projection can also simulate rain on command, and the simulated water will roll down the hills of the detected sand and pool at the lowest point it can reach. Kids can make snowcapped mountains, rolling rivers, and learn of the topographical situations that lead to flooding.



The Museum was visited by Port Arthur native and accomplished artist Monte Brickey. This hall of fame artist is renowned for his incredibly detailed oil and watercolor creations depicting peaceful rural settings and backdrops of the Texas countryside. He also was one of the Judges for the 2019 Community Art Contest. Mr. Brickey has graciously given the Museum Gift Shop a collection of his smaller works and decorative pieces. These beautiful works of art are indicative of his talent, and can be an ornament to your home today.

Janis: Her Life and Music

On Saturday, January 11th the Museum hosted Holly George-Warren, who celebrated the release of her new book and only Janis Joplin. The book, titled *Janis: Her Life and Music*, is available for purchase and she was able to meet and greet fans. She was joined by Michael Joplin, brother of Janis Joplin, who signed the book as well. All told it was a very exciting event with books for over two hours and chatting with guests. There was a temporary exhibition in honor of Janis Joplin and extensive memorabilia. This temporary exhibition was the participation of David Steinberg who loaned the book. *Janis: Her Life and Music* is still available at the Museum on its very own copy!



Hall of Fame Spotlight

Chuck McElroy

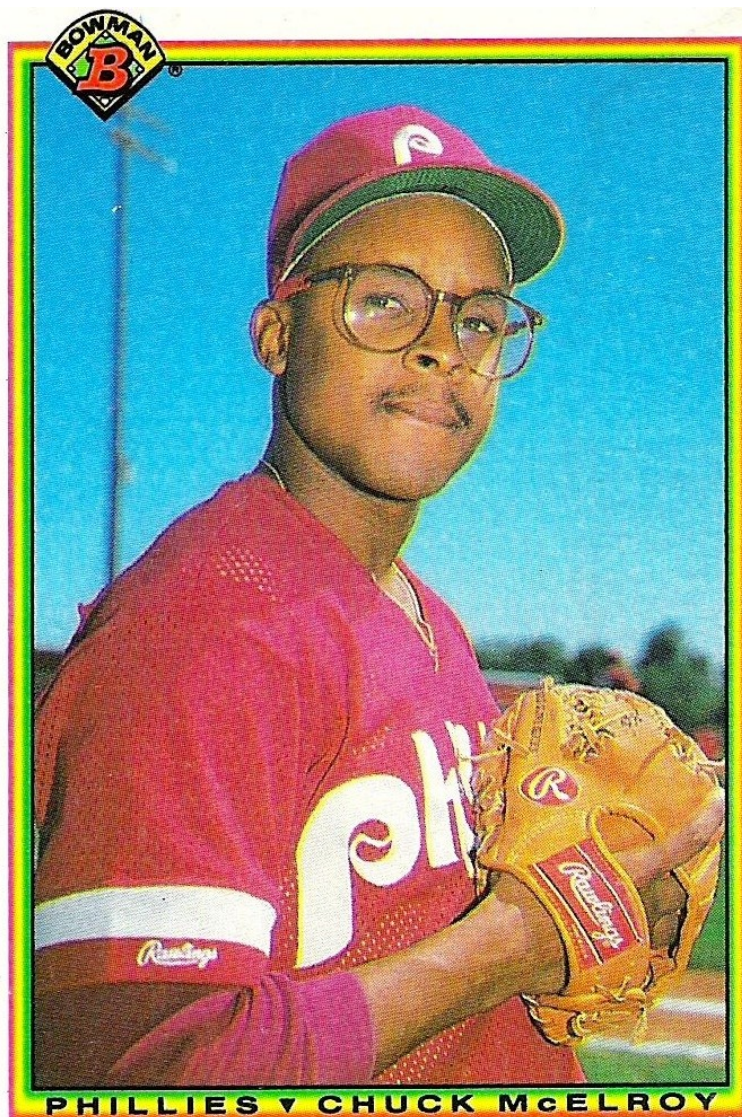
October 1, 1967

Galveston, Texas

Pitcher Charles "Chuck" McElroy moved to Port Arthur at an early age. He graduated from Lincoln High School, where he set the school record for strike-outs (238) as a senior in 1986.

He was drafted by the Philadelphia Phillies that same year and joined the big league club in 1989. He also spent time playing for the Chicago Cubs, Cincinnati Reds, Anaheim Angels, Chicago White Sox, Colorado Rockies, New York Mets, Baltimore Orioles and San Diego Padres before retiring in ...2001.

After more than 12 seasons in Major League Baseball, primarily as a relief pitcher, he ended up with a 38-30 record, 608 strikeouts, and a career Earned Run Average of 3.90. In his 15 year career, primarily as a relief pitcher, he held an Earned run average of 3.90 and had 604 strikeouts.



Family Fun Day Spring 2020



On February 29, 2020 the Museum opened its doors for the first Family Fun Day of 2020. Opening in tandem with the future-themed art show and competition, the theme was science fiction and technology. With over 400 in attendance, the Museum was joined by costumed charitable group Charitable Force and included Darth Vader and Princess Leia, from the Star Wars films. The robotics team from Lamar University, the Robotic Cardinals, brought a multipurpose robot and 3D Printer to demonstrate. A group from Engineers Without Borders were also present, and demonstrated to kids a series of scientific experiments in the form of crafts. Other volunteers include the museum staff, the Williams' from Snake Experience, and Texas Parks and Wildlife Service. All in all, it was an exciting and high kickoff to the new year.



5TH ANNUAL GULF COMMUNITY ART SHOW 2020: A LOOK TO THE FUTURE

Winners of the 2020 Gulf Community Art Show were announced at the Family Fun Day

1st Place in the Teenage Division, *Metallic Overdrive* by Trey Rise. The three division champions were awarded art supplies and canvas for future works and further artistic development.



1st Place in the Adult Professional Division:
Bittersweet Transcendence by Michelle MacMahon



Winner of "Best in Show," and the \$100 prize,
Logan Comeaux for his painting *Spare Parts*.

Coming Soon...



51 Years after the historic music festival, we celebrate the Gulf Coast music icons who performed at Woodstock

Janis Joplin Johnny Winter Edgar Winter Larry Graham
Graham



Recent patrons of the Museum may have noticed the work being done on the second floor Music Hall of Fame. We are well underway with a series of renovations, making way for all new exciting features. While some of our displays have to be removed for a short while, they will be restored in a new and finer exhibit complete with new lights, more music in our vintage Rock-Ola jukebox, and new interactive kiosk systems.



The new features will not only help us in preserving the history and music of these Gulf Coast icons, but the interactive experience will keep that very music alive for the public to enjoy for years to come. The Music Hall of Fame will remain open during this transition, we only ask patrons of the Museum for their understanding and patience. You can still take in the wide array of Gulf Coast musicians represented and most of the exhibit's artifacts will remain on display, but our staff may require a bit more of the space to finish installing these exciting upgrades. We are well on the road to completion and the official "reopening" of the Music Hall of Fame is scheduled to coincide with our Summer Exhibition, "Woodstock +1." Both will be opened on Saturday, May 9th, 2020.

Staff Updates

With all the coming updates, expansions, and our renewed focus on technology, we are looking to incorporate new and more interesting technology into our exhibits. We will be working with our newest staff member, Mr. Robert Fong.

After graduating from the University of Texas, Robert Fong worked primarily in Los Angeles in editorial. His credits include *Outer Space*, and *Twin Peaks, Season One*. After becoming a staff member, he and his wife Donna Dungan Fong moved back to South Texas. Robert is involved in all aspects of video and digital production, and marketing. He is a member of the Southeast Texas Advertising Federation, 3 time director of the Southeast Texas Arts Council. He has also participated in the Texas Film Festival as an actor and director. He currently resides in Port Arthur and is involved in the Defend the Drain campaign for the City of Port Arthur and the Port Arthur Foundation. They pour down their drains. He is currently in the process of developing touchscreen content and is updating the biographies of the museum's collection.



Memorial at the Museum of the Gulf Coast

We at the Museum of the Gulf Coast are always grateful to our members and the members of the Port Arthur Historical Society, whose contributions are such a vital part of our ability to preserve the storied history of the Gulf Coast. If you would like to contribute a Memorial in the name of a loved one, or to make a donation, please contact Becky Guidry at (409) _____ or email us at Becky@MuseumOfTheGulfCoast.com.

PA Historical Society Memorials & Donations

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Administered by the Port Arthur Historical Society
In Partnership with the City of Port Arthur.

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HOURS OF OPERATION
Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.



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