



THE FISHIN' INSIDER

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I suppose this should go under the header of news from afar. The Sandspit community has lost a couple more characters that once made a pit stop and a mark here or should I say looked for and found some marks here.

Jeff Wheeler has made his final bidness deal and boy was it a beaut. Word is, and this has been confirmed, that he met his demise in the steamy jungles of Costa Rica. He plugged three before they plugged him. I knew him from Big D and back in the eighties he and his brother Scott came down here and knocked a home run. They opened a semi-zero overhead bar on the bay called Rum Runners which is now Tequila Sunset. The baby cash flowed Scott all the way to Hollywood and a possible career as a screenwriter and Jeff to the cusp of a mega

resort developer down in Belize. He hustled dinero off of anybody who had some gold, even thought he had the legendary Mel Fisher out of Key West on the hook for a while. As it turned out, he only got to Kit the "landlord" of the Sandspit and Kit got reimbursed for the fraud by his banker's insurance so he really lost very little money. As rounders go he was a good one; he liked to fish and claimed that he caught and sold to Blackbeard's the giant stingray that hangs on their wall to this day. He is survived by Scott and his sister Deborah and Gloria, better known as Tinkerbell or Munchkin from way back when she owned the Sailorman's Pub and worked at Sheehan's which is now Kelly's.

The other gent that passed on is another Dallasite. Mike Morgan went quietly in his

sleep from heart failure. This gent was a one time partner of Phil Cobb and Gene Street of Prufrock fame. He handled the construction side of the Black Eyed Pea monstrosity and opened up the now defunct Margarita Mama's in Port Isabel using OPM and I mean a lot of other people's money. Great idea but the execution just didn't work out; word is his son'll be down here shortly to spread his ashes in the bay. RIP guys, it was great knowing ya.

This weekend we've got the boat show in Mercedes. They haul their wares to the stockyards and are ready to cut killer deals so they don't have to haul the hulls home. Check it out cuz the deals are real and the product quality is outstanding.