

A LETTER FROM THE CHAMBER PRESIDENT:

The Port Isabel Chamber of Commerce is entering its busiest time of year with a full slate of special events planned in the coming months.

Fall will bring a wide range of activities to our area, including our 16th Annual World Championship Shrimp Cookoff, the Lighted Christmas Boat Parade and the 26th Annual Longest Causeway Run & Fitness Walk. We'll be hosting outdoor writers and RV Park activities directors this month and look forward to spreading the message about our community.

Our November All Member meeting will feature our annual Breakfast with the Mayor—featuring Port Isabel Mayor Joe Vega and his message on the State of the City. We hope you will mark your calendars and plan on attending.

As always, we encourage you to contact our office with any suggestions or questions you might have about the services we provide to our membership. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Betty Wells

President Port Isabel Chamber of Commerce

16TH ANNUAL SHRIMP COOK-OFF IS SET FOR NOVEMBER 1ST

Dozens of amateur and professional chefs will compete for top prizes at the 16th Annual World's Championship Shrimp Cookoff, scheduled to be held Sunday, November 1st from 10:00 am to 6 pm at the intersection of Highway 100 and 48 in Port Isabel.

The community event will be held in the parking lot of the Las Palmas Shopping Center, in front of Beall's and other retail stores. The site location is provided courtesy of Tarantino Properties.

Live music will be provided by The Agency all day long, and festival goers can browse the booths of gifts, food items, art and more. A minicarnival and Children's area will be set up on Third Street—which will be closed for the one day event. Admission is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children 10 and under. Proceeds benefit the Port Isabel Chamber of Commerce.

"This event is made possible through the generous support of our corporate sponsors," said Chamber President Betty Wells. "In addition, the many volunteers who contribute their hours of time and efforts are what make this such a successful festival." An estimated 5,000 people attended last year's cookoff and Chamber officials are optimistic that crowds will be large again this year.

For more information on the World's Championship Shrimp Cookoff, contact the Chamber office at 943-2262.

MARKETING COMMITTEE TO HOST RV PARK DIRECTORS & OUTDOOR WRITERS IN OCTOBER

The Port Isabel Marketing Committee will host RV Park Activities Directors from across the Valley in a one day familiarization tour scheduled in October.

Invitations will be sent to all Valley RV parks and will be limited, in its first session, to the first 30 respondents. The tour itinerary will include, lunch, tours of the Port Isabel Lighthouse and Museums of Port Isabel and a two hour cruise provided by the Black Dragon pirate ship crew and the Sea Life Center.

"The purpose of the tour is to showcase the many attractions Port Isabel has to offer our Winter Texans," says Chamber President Betty Wells. "It is our hope that the park directors will pass the information on to the many thousands of Winter Visitors who come to the Valley every year."

Also in October, the Marketing Committee will host outdoor writers from throughout the state and region during a two day stay in the area. Writers will enjoy two days of guided fishing trips with area charter captains and will be wined and dined throughout their stay.

"We are extremely pleased that area businesses are lending their support to these two important events," Wells said. "In most cases, all of the lodging, food and related activities are being provided at little or no cost to the Chamber. Without that level of support, it would not be possible to provide these unique itineraries."

PORT ISABEL WELCOMES SPI BIKEFEST, ART, MUSIC & MEXICAN FOOD LOVERS TO THE 11TH ANNUAL PORT ISABEL LIGHTHOUSE MEXICAN FIESTA & ART WALK

The 11th Annual Lighthouse Mexican Fiesta will be held on Saturday, October 10th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Port Isabel Lighthouse. The Lighthouse Mexican Fiesta will feature live music and entertainment on two stages throughout the day. Vendors offering a variety of Mexican food,

collectibles, information, art and more will be sure to tempt the browser. The Lighthouse and the Museums will offer a reduced entry fee of \$1.00 and FREE bandanas will be given to attendees. First come, first served*.

This is a collaborative event between the Museums of Port Isabel, the City of Port Isabel, Port Isabel Economic Development Corporation and the Port Isabel Merchants. In 2007 the Lighthouse Mexican Fiesta changed its focus to better reflect the event as a celebration of the art, history and culture of Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 - October 15).

Come enjoy this free, family friendly event with lots of food, fun, art and entertainment! No admission charge.

Be sure to visit the Art Walk on Lighthouse Square from 4 - 8 p.m. and Laser light show on the lighthouse at 8:30ish.

For more information visit:
www.portisabelmuseums.com/lmfiesta.

*Bandana quantities are limited.

OCTOBER CHAMBER & COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Monday, October 5** -----
5:30pm Parks & Recreation (City of Port Isabel)
- Tuesday, October 6** -----
5:30pm Historical Preservation Board
6:00pm Board of Adjustment Meeting
- Wednesday, October 7** -----
8:30am Chamber of Commerce Executive Board Meeting
8:30am Merchant's Committee Meeting
- Thursday, October 8** -----
8:00am Laguna Madre Humane Society
6:00pm Beautification Committee
- Friday, October 9** -----
Port Isabel Tarpon HOMECOMING!
- Saturday, October 10** -----
9:00am Lighthouse Mexican Fiesta & Art Walk
- Sunday, October 11** -----
5:00pm Laguna Madre Humane Society Fundraiser
- Monday, October 12** -----
10:00am Museums- Laguna Madre Museum Foundation
- Tuesday, October 13** -----
7:00pm City Commission Meeting
- Wednesday, October 14** -----
6:00pm Planning & Zoning Meeting
- Thursday, October 15** -----
3:00pm Harbor Committee
- Tuesday, October 20** -----
6:00pm Joint Community Center Committee
- Wednesday, October 21** -----
8:30am Merchant's Committee Meeting
6:00pm Economic Development Corporation Board Meeting
- Thursday, October 22** -----
5:30pm Comprehensive Planning
- Tuesday, October 27** -----
7:00pm Commission Meeting (City of Port Isabel)
- Friday, October 30** -----
8:30pm Lighthouse Establishment Cinema
- Saturday, October 31** -----
All day Day of the Dead Celebration (Port Isabel Museums)
- Sunday, November 1** -----
9:00am Antique & Flea Market
10:00am World's Championship Shrimp Cook-Off
See more online at www.portisabel.org/calendar

~ **PORT ISABEL** ~
Chamber of Commerce

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