

## A LETTER FROM THE CHAMBER PRESIDENT:

The Port Isabel Chamber of Commerce started off the new year with one of its most successful events—the 25th Annual Longest Causeway Run & Fitness Walk. More than 2,800 participants registered for this extremely popular event. For more information, please see the related article in this issue of our newsletter or visit our website at [www.portisabel.org](http://www.portisabel.org).

The Chamber office has seen a steady increase in visitor traffic—primarily our Winter Texans from the north. They are a welcome economic market and we truly appreciate their business. We urge all of you to express your appreciation to these visitors as they come into your shops.

The Port Isabel Marketing Committee is working on several projects to spread the message of our community. Plans are underway to attend several trade and travel shows in the next few months. If you have literature you would like distributed at these shows, please bring it to the Chamber office at 421 E. Queen Isabella Blvd., next to the Lighthouse in the Keeper's Cottage.

Our February All Member meeting is set for Friday, Feb. 6 and will feature a presentation on the Port Isabel Community Crime Watch Program. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,  
Betty Wells, President

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*Betty Wells*

President Port Isabel Chamber of Commerce

## MUSEUMS OF PORT ISABEL PLAN FEBRUARY FUNDRAISER

Pirates of the Laguna Madre is the theme for the annual Museums of Port Isabel annual fundraiser.

Scheduled to be held Friday, Feb. 13 at 7 pm, the celebration features food, drink, music, door prizes, pirates, dancers and silent and live auctions. A costume contest will attract the best dressed pirates in town and the event will also feature "Doubleloon, Lagoon"—an original play by Gloria Bates sponsored by the El Paseo Arts Foundation.

Area restaurants and merchants have donated an array of items for the fundraiser, which is the 12th annual Essence of the Laguna Madre celebration. Tickets are priced at \$50 per person and all proceeds benefit the museums.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact the museums at (956) 943-7602 or visit their website at [www.portisabelmuseums.com/fundraiser](http://www.portisabelmuseums.com/fundraiser).

## 25TH ANNUAL CAUSEWAY RUN A SUCCESS

More than 2800 participants competed in the 25th Annual Longest Causeway Run & Fitness Walk, held Saturday, Jan. 10.

"It was another record year for this event," said Chamber President Betty Wells, "and it went very smoothly. We registered more than 1,000 competitive runners and almost 2,000 serious walkers."

The event began at 10 am at the Port Isabel Community Center. Walkers finished their course at the base of the Queen Isabella Causeway on South Padre Island. Runners continued to Louie's Backyard on the Island, where an awards luncheon and ceremonies were held. The top three overall male and female runners received cash prizes of \$1,000, \$600 and \$400 respectively. Charles Kandice finished first in the men's divisions with a time of 29:44.9, followed by Elisha Korir with a time of 30:02.1 and Kibet Cherop at 30:22.8. Leading the women at first place was Liza Hunter-Galvan with a time of 36:18.0, followed by Nora Edith Suarez Briones at 39:51.6 and Tricia Terry at 40:04.0. A complete list of winners can be found at the Chamber website at [www.portisabel.org](http://www.portisabel.org).

The date for the 26th Annual Longest Causeway Run & Fitness Walk has been set for Saturday, Jan. 9, 2010.

## MERCHANTS COMMITTEE SCHEDULES PLAY MONEY AUCTION

Shopping in Port Isabel is rewarding in more ways than one.

The Port Isabel Merchants Committee has scheduled a Customer Appreciation Auction on February 27th. Customers collect receipts from their purchases at participating merchants and redeem their receipts for items offered at the auction. The promotion started on Nov. 1st and will run through Feb. 27th.

Participating businesses include the following:  
Anna's Hair Salon, ArtSea Gallery & Goods, Bayside Furniture, Black Dragon Pirate Ship, Blue Bamboo Gifts & Garden, Coastal Winds, Dazzles, Designer Consigner, hanZon! Massage Therapy, Island Time Consignments, Judy's Jewelry, Marcello's Restaurant, Modern Island

Furniture, Pelican Station Restaurant, Oirates Landing Restaurant, Purple Parrot Gallery, Rio Bravo Gallery, Rusty Pelican, Sandi's Coffee Shop, Southwind Inn, Welcome Aboard, White Sands Restaurant & marina, and Yellow Petals Coffee & Boutique.

For information on the events, please contact the Port Isabel Chamber of Commerce at 943-2262.

## FEBRUARY COMMUNITY & CHAMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1-PI Antique & Flea Market (Beulah Lee Park) 9a-4p	2-Parks & Recreation Committee (City Hall) 5:30p City Commission Special Meeting (City Hall) 6:30p	3	4-PICC Board Meeting (White Sands) 8:30a	5	6-All Chamber Member Meeting (Pirates Landing) 8:30a	7-PI Public Library Adventures in Literature. 3-5p. SPI. 943-0776 or 772-9127 PI Public Library Lecture Series, 11:30a Lunch. 12p Lecture. 943-0776
8	9	10-City Commission Meeting(City Hall) 7p	11-Merchants Meeting (Location TBA) 8:30a P & Z (City Hall) 6p Tri-City Meeting (SPI Golf Club) 6:30p	12-Beautification Committee Meeting (City Hall) 5p	13-	14-PI Public Library Annual Book Fair, Bake Sale & Raffle. 9a-3p. 943-0776
15-PI Public Library Annual Book Fair, Bake Sale & Raffle. 1-3p. 943-0776	16	17	18-Ambassador's Meeting (Treasures Museum) 8:30a PI EDC (City Hall) 6p	19	20	21-KOA World's Largest Surf Fishing Tournament & Beach Cleanup PI Public Library Adventures in Literature. 3-5p. SPI. 943-0776 or 772-9127
22	23	24-City Commission Meeting (City Hall) 7p	25-Merchants Meeting (Location TBA) 8:30a	26-Comprehensive Planning Committee (City Hall) 5:30p Museums' Telling Our Stories Program 7p (Treasures of the Gulf Museum)	27	28

~ PORT ISABEL ~  
Chamber of Commerce

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