

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Chamber Members:

One month of the new year is already gone and our Winter Texan visitors have been arriving in good numbers.

Our 26th Annual Longest Causeway Run & Fitness Walk was a success in spite of the colder weather with a total registration of 2,654. For results and photos, please see other news in this issue of our newsletter.

The Chamber is starting to plan for its annual awards banquet and will also host a Winter Texan Shrimp Boil on February 24th. For more information on Chamber programs and activities, please contact the Chamber office.

I'd also like to remind you that our regular All Member meeting has been set for Friday, Feb. 5th at 8:30 am at Pirates Landing. I look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,
Betty Wells
President



26TH CAUSEWAY RUN A SUCCESS

More than 2500 participants competed in the 26th Annual Longest Causeway Run & Fitness Walk, held Saturday, Jan. 9.

"It was successful year for this event," said Chamber President Betty Wells, "and it went very smoothly in spite of cold weather conditions. We registered almost 1,000 competitive runners and over 1500 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. A complete list of winners can be found at the Chamber website at www.portisabel.org.

The date for the 27th Annual Longest Causeway Run & Fitness Walk has been set for Saturday, Jan. 8, 2011.

CHAMBER TO HOST WINTER TEXAN SHRIMP BOIL

The Port Isabel Chamber of Commerce will host a Winter Texan Shrimp Boil on Wednesday, Feb. 24th from 3-5 pm.

The event is designed to show our appreciation for our Winter Texans and will be limited to the first 200 tickets sold. Tickets are priced at \$5 per person and are available at the Chamber office.

The event will be held in The Garden at the Lighthouse—the new patio area just opened next to Designer Consigner and operated by Glenda Stafford. "We really appreciate Glenda allowing us to have this event at her new facility," said Chamber President Betty Wells. "It is a perfect venue for this type of activity."

The shrimp boil will feature a Cajun shrimp boil meal, refreshments and live entertainment by Tom Wayne. For more information, contact the Chamber office at 943-2262.

MUSEUMS OF PORT ISABEL PLAN FEBRUARY FUNDRAISER

Viva la Revolution! is the theme for the annual Museums of Port Isabel fundraiser.

Scheduled to be held Friday, Feb. 12 at 7 pm at the Treasures of the Gulf Museum, the celebration features food, drink, music, an auction, and special Mexican Revolution exhibits and presentations. A highlight of the celebration will be the live opening of a Mexican Revolution era safe. Register your guess of what's in the safe at participating businesses and you could win a prize to be awarded at the event.

Area restaurants and merchants have

donated an array of items for the fundraiser, which is the 13th 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 email jrivera@copitx.com.

CITY OF PORT ISABEL TO RECEIVE TPW GRANT FOR BOAT RAMP REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENTS

Port Isabel Mayor Joe E. Vega, Commissioner Memo Torres and City Manager

Edward Meza returned Friday from a trip to Austin with news that the City of Port Isabel had been awarded \$388,330 to renovate and improve the Pompano Park Boat Ramp located on Pompano Street in the Modern Venice area. During a January 28th meeting of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission in Austin a total of \$2,545,249 in grants were awarded to 10 Texas projects for which local governments will operate and maintain the ramps in their communities.

Pompano Park Boat Ramp will have renovations and improvements to the boat ramp, parking area, bulkheads, restroom, utilities and lighting area. Funds received will also cover new construction for a courtesy dock and fish cleaning table.

Mayor Vega, Commissioner Torres and City Manager Meza expressed a sense of accomplishment with the news that the City Docks will soon be back in commission. "Fishing is such an important part of what Port Isabel has to offer and having the boat ramp and parking facilities back in business will make access to the Laguna Madre Bay and the great fishing we are known for so convenient for visiting anglers. We appreciate the partnership with TPW on this new project," Mayor Joe Vega added.

MUSEUMS OF PORT ISABEL "TELLING OUR STORIES" ENCORE CAUSEWAY COLLAPSE PRESENTATION

Due to the response of Thursday's Telling Our Stories' "Queen Isabella Causeway Collapse", two more presentations have been scheduled. February 4th at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. the Museums of Port Isabel will again be hosting the story of the day the bridge collapsed. Speaker, Valerie Bates.

For more information, contact the Port Isabel Museum at 956/943-7602.

JANUARY CHAMBER & COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2/1	5:30pm	Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting
2/2	5:30pm	Historical Preservation Board
	6:00pm	Board of Adjustments
2/4	4:00pm	Museums of Port Isabel "Telling Our Stories"
	7:00pm	Museums of Port Isabel "Telling Our Stories"
2/6	7:00am	Boys & Girls Club of Laguna Madre Garage Sale
2/7	9:00am	Port Isabel Antique & Flea Market Monday
2/8-9	10:00am	Laguna Madre Art League Sale
2/9	7:00pm	City Commission Meeting
2/10	8:30am	Merchant's Committee Meeting
	10:00am	Laguna Madre Art League Sale
	6:00pm	Planning & Zoning Committee Meeting
2/11	5:30pm	Beautification Committee
2/12	7:00pm	Museums of Port Isabel Annual Fundraiser
2/13	9:00am	Port Isabel Public Library Book Fair
2/14	1:00pm	Port Isabel Public Library Book Fair
2/16	6:00pm	Joint Community Center Committee
2/17	6:00pm	Economic Development Corporation Board Meeting
2/18	All day	TTTR Hospitality Training
	6:00pm	Harbor Committee
2/23	7:00pm	City Commission Meeting
2/24	8:30am	Merchant's Committee Meeting
	3:00pm	Winter Texan Appreciation~ Cajun Shrimp Boil!
2/25	5:30pm	Comprehensive Planning
	7:00pm	Museums of Port Isabel "Telling Our Stories"
2/26-28	10:00am	Laguna Madre Art League Sale

~ **PORT ISABEL** ~
Chamber of Commerce

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