

## A LETTER FROM THE CHAMBER PRESIDENT:

The Labor Day holiday traditionally marks the end of summer and the start of a new season for area businesses. The delay in starting Texas schools brought a busier than normal August to our city and we are pleased the legislature has been responsive to the concerns of tourism communities.

As the fall season begins, the Chamber is busy with plans for our 14th Annual World Championship Shrimp Cookoff, slated for November 4th, and the 24th Annual Longest Causeway Run & Fitness Walk, scheduled for January 12th. We are aggressively pursuing corporate sponsors for these two events and would welcome the participation of your business. If you would like to receive information regarding sponsorship packages, or know of a business that might be interested, please contact the Chamber office at 943-2262. We are also pleased to announce that the South Padre Island Convention & Visitors Bureau has made sponsorship commitments to both of these major events.

Committees for both the cookoff and run are now meeting and we encourage you to join us and offer your input. Volunteers are always welcome!

Please make plans to attend our monthly All Member meeting, scheduled to be held Friday, September 7th at 8:30 am at Pirate's Landing. Our guest speaker will be Sherry Sylvester of Texans for Lawsuit Abuse. I look forward to seeing you at the meeting!

Sincerely,  
*Betty Wells*  
President Port Isabel Chamber of Commerce

## SHERRY SYLVESTER IS CHAMBER GUEST SPONSOR

Sherry Sylvester of Texans for Lawsuit Abuse will be the guest speaker at the Sept. 7th Port Isabel Chamber of Commerce's All Member meeting, scheduled to be held at 8:30 am at Pirate's Landing.

Sylvester is an award winning journalist and communications specialist whose career includes national reporting, political campaigns, public policy research and advocacy. She was the Political Writer at the San Antonio Express-News where she covered the 2000 presidential campaign, the Florida recount and the last national census. She stepped down in 2003 to found Texas Media Watch-the first statewide media monitoring project in the nation.

Sylvester's 20 minute presentation is entitled "An Update on Tort Reform and the Texas Civil Justice System". The speech content includes:

\*An overview of lawsuit abuse in Texas prior to 1994 and a brief history of TLR.

\*A summary of what has been achieved, such as reform of class action lawsuits, medical liability, vol-

unteer immunity, offer of settlement, venue, proportionate responsibility, interstate forum shopping and asbestos liability.

\*A description of the challenges we still face in Texas in order to maintain fairness and balance in our civil justice system.

## AUGUST NEW CHAMBER MEMBERS

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## WELCOME NEW TEACHERS!

The Port Isabel Chamber of Commerce and the South Padre Island Chamber of Commerce hosted a luncheon for new teachers at Amberjack's on August 21st. Thirty-one new teachers attended the luncheon-nine of whom are Port Isabel graduates. We would also like to thank the many businesses who contributed items for the new teacher bags and door prizes for the luncheon.

## September Community & Chamber Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2-Port Isabel Flea Market Beulah Lee Park 9a-4p	3-Parks & Rec (City Hall) 6p	4-Board of Adjustments (City Hall) 6:30p	5	6	7-All Chamber meeting 8:30a (Pirates Landing) 8:30a	8
9	10	11-City Commissioners (City Hall) 7p	12-Merchants Mtg. (Treasures) 8:30a P & Z 6p	13- Beautification Committee (City Hall) 5p @	14	15
16	17	18	19-Ambassadors Meeting- 8:30a Treasures Museum EDC- 6p	20	21	22
23	24	25-City Commissioners (City Hall) 6p	26	27-MoPI's Telling Our Stories 7p (Treasures Museum) Free admission.	28	29
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~ PORT ISABEL ~  
Chamber of Commerce

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