

A LETTER FROM THE CHAMBER PRESIDENT:

School is back in session and the Port Isabel area is busy getting ready for our Winter Texan visitors.

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 in October and look forward to spreading the message about our community.

Our September All Member meeting is set for Friday, Sept. 4th at 8:30 am at Pirate's Landing Restaurant and will feature our first ever Economic Forum. Pirate's Landing will offer a complimentary breakfast buffet for the meeting.

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

CHAMBER TO HOST ECONOMIC FORUM

The Port Isabel Chamber of Commerce will host an Economic Forum at their regular all member meeting on Friday, Sept. 4th at 8:30 am at Pirate's Landing Restaurant in Port Isabel.

According to Chamber President Betty Wells, Chamber members with financial interests such as banks and investment advisors will be invited to speak during a complimentary breakfast buffet provided by Pirate's Landing. Featured speaker will be Petra Reyna of Reyna & Associates, who will serve as the grant manager for the Port Isabel Economic Development Corporation's \$405,000 revolving loan program. The program is financed through a \$300,000 USDA Rural Development's Rural Business Enterprise Program and matching funds from the PIEDC.

For more information on the Economic Forum, please contact Betty Wells at the Port Isabel Chamber of Commerce, 943-2262. Information on the PIEDC Revolving Loan Program may be obtained by contacting Jill Francisco, EDC Administrator, at jfrancisco@copitx.com or call 943-2682.

NEW CHAMBER MEMBER!
CARL CHRISTENSEN JR. ENTERPRISES

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 an historic tour of the city aboard the Port Isabel trolley, lunch, tours of the Port Isabel Lighthouse and Museums of Port Isabel, a dockside show provided by the Black Dragon pirate ship crew, and a one hour dolphin watch.

"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. Also included in their activities will be an historical tour of the area.

"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."

16TH ANNUAL SHRIMP COOKOFF 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.

SEPTEMBER COMMUNITY & CHAMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|--|
| | | 1-Public Hearing & City Commission Meeting (City Hall) 7p | 2-Port Isabel Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting (White Sands Restaurant) 8:30a | 3-Edward Jones Investments Ribbon Cutting (Los Fresnos) 6p Veteran's Meeting (City Hall) 6p | 4-All Chamber meeting-Economic Forum & Breakfast provided by Pirate's Landing (8:30a) | 5 |
| 6-PI Antique & Flea Market (Beulah Lee Park) 9a-4p | 7-PICC Office Closed. Labor Day Holiday! | 8-City Commission Meeting(City Hall) 7p | 9-Beautification Committee 5p (City Hall) | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | Merchants Committee Meeting (Mexiquito) 8:30a 16-Ambassador's Meeting (Treasures) 8:30a | 17-Harbor Committee 5:30p (City Hall) | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22-City Commission Meeting (City Hall) 7p | PI EDC (City Hall) 6p 23-Merchants Committee Meeting 8:30a | 24-Museums' Telling Our Stories Program (Treasures) 7p Comprehensive Planning Meeting (City Hall) 5:30p | 25 | 26-QIC 35th Anniversary Re-Dedication / Celebration / Reception. 9a & 3p. Port Isabel & South Padre Island |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |

~ PORT ISABEL ~
Chamber of Commerce

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