



The Lighthouse

Mud bug time at the Marina

Now that our hosting duties for the boat show are done, it's time for the annual marina crawfish boil Saturday, April 22, from Noon 'till they're gone. It will be in the marina parking lot in front of the office, across from pier 14. Tickets are available that day and are \$25 each and \$5 for ages 12 and under. This includes all the crawfish you can eat, as well as beverages. Guests are welcome and no reservations are required. There will be entertainment as well.

This is the first big gathering of the year and always a lot of fun. Come see your marina friends you haven't seen for awhile and meet some new ones. This is a rain or shine event, which means it'll happen no matter what, so bring your appetite and let the good times roll.



Reminders

As the Southwest International Boat Show hits the stage April 6-9, remember you will be affected.

The parking lot is already fenced off and closed as of Saturday, March 25 and will reopen Wednesday, April 12. Parking will be available for marina members in the underground parking, and the lot at the northwest end of the marina, between piers 1 and 4. Remember to hang your Tenant Parking Permit from the rear view mirror. Boat owners who will be required to move their boat should have received notification directly from the marina office as to when you will have to move and where and when you can return. Tenants will receive a discount at the gate with member ID.

Don't forget to take advantage of the fun in your own backyard with these opportunities:

- Onshore there will be live music and more than 200 vendors offering a variety of services and products for the boating and outdoor lifestyle.

More Reminders, page 2

Everything crawfish

In honor of the annual crawfish boil, here are some fun facts about crawfish.

- Crawfish have inner gills that allow them to live out of water
- Crawfish can drown, careful when you purge.
- There are over 500 species of crawfish. Only two are harvested although over half of the different species live in North America.
- There is a cave dwelling species of crawfish that are colorless and have no eyes
- In 1983 Louisiana designated the crawfish (Cambaridae) as its official State Crustacean.
- Missouri designated the crayfish (also known as crawfish and crawdad) as the Official State Invertebrate in 2007.
- The eggs develop while attached to the swimming legs of the female.
- Europeans consider them a delicacy.
- A crawfish has four pair of walking legs and four pair of swimming legs.
- Crawfish feed at night.
- Breaux Bridge, Louisiana, is known as the *Crawfish Capital of the World*.
- Crawfish (*Procambarus clarkii*), also called crayfish, crawdads,

More Crawfish, page 2

Reminders

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- Texas boat debuts including Cape Fear Catamarans of the South East, the Taiwan-built Horizon PC60 Powercat, the Aquila 44 Powercat and a new generation of RIBs from Italian manufacturer ZAR Formenti.
 - Take the Helm on-water boat handling lessons for all experience levels, taught by U.S. Coast Guard licensed captains and hosted by Carefree Boat Club.
 - A comprehensive seminar program, featuring free hourly seminars for attendees. Offered across all four days of the show, and hosted by industry experts, radio hosts and world travelers.
- Show dates and hours: Thursday, April 6: 12-7 p.m.; Friday, April 7: 12-7 p.m.; Saturday, April 8: 10 a.m.-7 p.m.;

Crawfish

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and mud bugs, are freshwater crustaceans found on every continent except for Africa. In appearance they greatly resemble the lobster, but are much smaller. Crawfish range in size between 3 to 10 inches depending on the species and the location. They grow throughout a series of molts by which they shed their exoskeleton and produce a new one. A crawfish nearly doubles its size with each molt.

- Crawfish are both fished — from natural rivers, bayous, swamps and lakes — and farmed. The main farmed species in the U.S. is the Red Swamp

Tenants Payments just got easier

The Marina Office is now accepting credit/debit cards for all payments as well as auto pay.



and Sunday, April 9: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Adult tickets are \$10 (15 and under are free).
Tickets are available online at the website, www.southwestinternationalboatshow.com.

crawfish.

- The U.S. produces 60,000 metric tons of crawfish annually, with 90% of that coming from Louisiana. In a typical year, 50 to 60% of all crawfish produced in Louisiana come from culture ponds.
- Crawfish are an excellent source of protein, and the fat content of washed tailmeat is low, only about 1 percent.
- About 60,000 tons of crawfish are produced in the U.S. each year, with more than 50% are cultured in ponds.
- The largest importer of U.S. crawfish is Sweden, which imports more than 2,500 tons each year.
- Chris Hendrix holds the world record for eating Crawfish. He ate 331 crawfish in 12 minutes.

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Sat. 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Sun. Noon-4:30 p.m.

FUEL PIER HOURS:

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Sat. & Sun. 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

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Easter Egg Hunt

Seabrook will have their annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 15 at Meador Park from 10-11:30 a.m. There will be plenty of hot dogs, snow cones and other refreshments, plus a bouncy house and train for the kids. This is a great community event with almost 8,000 Easter eggs plus a visit from the Easter Bunny.

Cops and Crawfish

The Kemah Citizens Academy Alumni Association is once again sponsoring their annual Cops and Crawfish, April 22 at the Jimmie Walker Community Center from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Crawfish \$10, BBQ sandwiches \$5, hot dogs, chips and drinks \$1. There will be a silent auction and tickets are available at Kemah City Hall.



Redfish tourney comes to Kemah

The #EliteRedfishSeries2017 will kick off the Skeeter Boats Western Division in Kemah, Thursday April 20.

Professional redfishing has not been in Kemah since 2009 when the ESPN Redfish Cup held an event there but that's about to change with the #BattleAtTheBoardwalk2017.

The pros of the Elite Redfish Series will battle the big waters of Kemah's Galveston Bay in hopes of starting off the 2017 tournament season with a big win vaulting them into the divisional winner's race and a brand new \$65,000.00 boat/motor/trailer bonus prize.

The pros of the Elite Redfish Series will be in town practicing weeks prior but will meet Wednesday, April 19 with a captain's dinner and marshal parings party takes place. The Aquarium at the boardwalk will be the host for this great time of food, fun and fellowship from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

Flea market season starting

Maritime Sanitation Inc.'s twenty-fourth annual Boater's Flea Market is May 13, 7 a.m. - 5 p.m. The event has a new location at 2105 Anders Lane in Kemah (next to Elite Diesel). Join in the fun . . . buy, sell or trade new and used boating, household and miscellaneous treasures. Food and non-alcoholic beverages will be sold and all proceeds benefit a local charity. To secure a spot to empty out your storage shed call (281) 535-2739. Setup is Friday, May 12 after 4 p.m. and this is a rain or shine event.

Kemah hosting Galveston Bay Songwriters festival

Galveston Bay Songwriters announced their headliners for their first festival. Hit Songwriter David Lee Murphy (*Dust On The Bottle* and *Party Crowd*) will perform Saturday, September 30, while Texas Native Radney Foster (*Nobody Wins* and *Just Call Me Lonesome*) will close the festival Sunday, October 1.

Both shows will take place in the Kemah City parking lot and tickets will go on sale April 8. To learn more about David Lee Murphy, Radney Foster shows or the festival, visit www.galvestonbaysongwriters.com.

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"Is the spring coming?" he said.

"What is it like?"

"It is the sun shining on the rain and
the rain falling on the sunshine . . ."

— Frances Hodgson Burnett

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