

# Maritime museum offers kids' camps, more

The Texas Maritime Museum in Rockport is offering camps for kids this summer. And, for adults, a wine and food festival will be held on the museum grounds.

While many visitors think of Texas as being made from hide and horn, the Lone Star State has a rich history of seafaring also, and the Texas Maritime Museum celebrates that history.

Displays at the museum feature Texas' maritime heritage from the early days of French

and Spanish exploration to the modern search for offshore oil and gas. Changing exhibits as well as interactive displays depict everything from coastal paddle wheelers to fishing lures.

SEA Camp, a free camp for Aransas County children, throughout June and into July. The H2Odysey paid camp is preparing for its second year.

Adults will enjoy the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Rockport Festival of Wine and Food, held on the museum's grounds Memorial Day Week-

end, May 23-24.

More information on the educational programs is available by contacting Jennifer Rogers, educator at the museum, toll free at (866) 729-1271.

Among regular features of the museum is the story of Rene Cavelier, Sieur de la Salle. The La Salle Odyssey tells the story of the explorer's ill-fated expedition that landed on the Texas coast in 1684. It has been only in recent years that archeologists have uncovered the remains of two of the ships

that were part of the French attempt to colonize Texas.

This exhibit uses artifacts recovered from La Salle's flagship, La Belle, to chronicle the life of the crew aboard ship. From block and tackle to navigational tools, the artifacts on display help paint a picture of the doomed expedition.

Permanent displays at the museum include one of fishing tackle, one on the Texas Navy, a history of offshore oil exploration and an art exhibit of lighthouses painted by Harold

Phenix.

The museum is at 1202 Navigation Circle, next to the city harbor. It's about a 30-minute drive from Port Aransas.

Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for senior citizens; \$2 for children 6 to 12 and free for children 5 and younger.

Museum hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday and 1-4 p.m. Sunday. Phone numbers are (361) 729-1271 or (361) 729-6644, or the museum's toll-free number, (866) 729-2469 (729-AHOY).



## Fireworks to light up night Fourth of July

Residents and visitors are invited to celebrate Independence Day by watching the fireworks display on Saturday, July 4.

The city, in conjunction with Charles Butt of H-E-B Food Stores and the Lydia Ann Lighthouse, will present the show starting at "dark-thirty", or about 9 p.m.

The same company that has produced the show for the past several years, Zambelli Fireworks Internationale of Pennsylvania, will present about 45 minutes of fireworks.

The fireworks will be shot from the Corpus Christi Ship Channel side of Roberts Point Park. Spectators may view the display from the park, but will be kept away from the site where they are ignited. The fireworks should be visible from just about anywhere in Port Aransas.

City officials remind the public that law prohibits shooting fireworks in the city limits of Port Aransas. Shooting fireworks also is prohibited in the City of Corpus Christi, the city limits of which about the city limits of Port Aransas. Typically, law enforcement officers confiscate fireworks from violators.

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# Village Walk

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