



October

2010 SEAFOOD AND MUSIC FESTIVAL



The South Padre Island Seafood and Music Festival was a two day, music, food, and arts event that took place on October 1st & 2nd at the South Padre Island Convention Centre. The festival featured Kevin Fowler, The Toadies, and many more. The “Rock the Riviera Redfish Fishing Tournament” was part of this festival.

BIKEFEST 2010



The South Padre Island Bikefest 2010 took place from October 7th to the 10th. Bikefest included several activities such as: King of the Causeway Cycling event, Night Race across the Queen Isabella Causeway, morning bicycle tour, Poker Run, and Bubba Blackwell performing a death defying stunt jump over Padre Boulevard.

7th ANNUAL WALK FOR WOMEN



The 7th Annual Walk for Women event took place from October 1st to the 3rd. The Walk for Women event provided SPI residents and visitors important breast cancer awareness and raised money to assist area residents that have been diagnosed with cancer.



Special Events

October

3rd ANNUAL HALLOWEEN CONTESTS



The E-Club's held its 3rd Annual Halloween event with costume, door decorating, pumpkin carving and creative dish contests. Judging were Council Members, Rick Ridolfi, Sam Listi, Alita Bagley and the Big Donkey Restaurant's Manager.



SAND CASTLE DAYS



The 23th Annual Sand Castle Days 2010 was held from October 20th to the 24th at Isla Blanca Park. The venue was a great time for sand sculptors from all over the world to show off their incredible sand castle building techniques. There were many different divisions of sand sculptors, all who brought their own creative touch to the beaches of South Padre Island.



November

VETERAN'S DAY CELEBRATION



The City had over 50 guests who attended the Veteran's Day Event with opening remarks from Mayor Robert N. Pinkerton, Jr., a Marine Corps Vietnam Veteran and with Mayor Pro-Tem JoAnn Evans leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Council member Richard R. Ridolfi, a retired Air Force Colonel thanked all Veterans in attendance, and our Police and Fire Departments presented the colors. A moving National Anthem was performed by the Port Isabel High School Band.

RECYCLE LAND



The Recycle Land event took place on Saturday, November 13th from 9am - 12pm at the south parking lot of Louie's Backyard. Residents did their part in creating a better environment by bringing items for recycling. Items recycled were air conditioners, florescent light bulbs, rechargeable batteries, ink and toner cartridges, cell phones, plastic bags, tin, aluminum, cardboard, plastic and newspaper.



Special Events

KEEP TEXAS BEAUTIFUL SIGN UNVEILED

On November 4th, the Keep SPI Beautiful Committee held a ribbon cutting ceremony for their first sign unveiling just north of The Shores. The Keep SPI Beautiful Committee is now an affiliate of Keep Texas Beautiful.



REPRESENTATIVE J.M. LOZANO RECEPTION



The City of South Padre Island hosted a reception for District 43 State Representative J.M. Lozano on Wednesday, November 17, 2010, in the City Hall Board Room. City Council and staff welcomed him to our community and enjoyed getting to know him a little better.



SPI INVITATIONAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

The SPI Invitational is one of college basketball's elite Thanksgiving tournaments that took place on November 26th & 27th. The 2010 teams were Brigham Young University, Texas Tech University, Saint Mary's College, University of South Florida, Liberty University, Chicago State University, Mississippi Valley State University, and Georgia Southern University.



LIGHTING OF THE ISLAND



On November 26, the South Padre Island Convention and Visitors Bureau organized a joyful event at the Visitors Center that marked the beginning of the holiday season with the lighting all Christmas lights.

December

23rd ANNUAL SPI HOLIDAY PARADE



The 23rd Annual SPI Holiday Parade took place on December 10 as part of the Jolly Days celebration. Holiday spirited participants started at Mars Street and marched down Padre Boulevard to Campeche Street. The Parade featured 22 floats, and 14 children's entries. The Parade Marshals were Nancy Marsden and Guy Blatnik.

HOLIDAY CHEER AT CITY HALL



On December 14th, dozens of residents and visitors attended the Holiday Cheer at City Hall event. Attendees together with Santa, the Saturn Street Strummers, PI Cheerleaders, City employees, and many more showed their Christmas Spirit on the steps of the City Hall. Awards were presented to the Parade and Lighting Contest winners.



December

12 DAYS OF HOLIDAY CELEBRATION



The SPI Parks, Recreation & Beautification Committee organized the 12 Days of Holidays as part of the Jolly Days Celebration. The 12 days of Holiday Celebrations included a series of events such as fashion show, movie night, bird count, tango dance lessons, and many other activities that united businesses with residents.

12 Days of Holiday Celebration

HOLIDAY EVENT LUNCHEON



On Friday, December 11th, 2010, the City of South Padre Island hosted their 1st annual "Holiday Event Luncheon" at the Convention Centre. The event was a success as reflected by the attendance and participation of our employees. Everyone enjoyed a delicious catered event and employees participated in the raffle for gifts that were generously donated by all our departments. With continued expressions of gratitude, employees shared the holiday cheer and look forward to a Happy New Year!

27th ANNUAL CAUSEWAY RUN & WELLNESS WALK



The 27th Annual Causeway Run & Wellness Walk took place on January 8th. The Race and Wellness Walk started at Port Isabel and ended on South Padre Island in front of Louie's Backyard. The event was hosted by the Port Isabel Chamber of Commerce.

D-LEAGUE SHOWCASE



The 2011 NBA Development League Showcase, the NBA's premier in-season basketball scouting event, tipped off its 16-game schedule on Monday, January 10th, and ran through Thursday, January 13th, at the South Padre Island Convention Centre. The Showcase, hosted by South Padre Island, featured all 16 NBA D-League teams playing two games each over a four-day schedule in front of professional scouts from all 30 NBA teams.



February

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND FREEZES UP!



On February 3rd, freezing conditions and “wintry mix” of snow, sleet and freezing rain were felt across the entire Rio Grande Valley. South Padre Island had the coldest temperatures in 22 years. TxDOT closed the Queen Isabella Memorial Causeway amid freezing weather. City Hall was opened as a “warming shelter”. Beach accesses were closed and snow flakes were visible on the sand dunes.

CONGRESSMAN BLAKE FARENTHOLD



The City hosted a reception to welcome our newly elected Congressman Blake Farenthold to our community. Congressman Farenthold met with the City Council and members of the community to discuss upcoming projects and community concerns.

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION

The Keep SPI Beautiful Committee hosted the Arbor Day Ceremony on February 19th. A Tepagueje tree was planted in honor of Arbor Day at Dr. Joseph C. and Jeanne K. Lis Memorial Park located at 209 W. Esperanza.



Special Events



ISLE DITTER DOG PUPPY PACHANGA

On Saturday, February 19th, dog lovers flocked to Louie's Backyard on South Padre Island for the Laguna Madre Humane Society's Isle Ditter Dog Puppy Pachanga. The event featured a Pooch Parade, Patriotic America Costume Contest and a My Dog's Got Talent Contest and Mayor Pro-Tem Evans, Dan Quandt, Larry Homan and Joni Clarke all served as judges for this special event.

SPRING BREAK 2011



Spring Break 2011 was a total success. Thousands of visitors from around the nation and beyond inundated the Island for one week. Events included activities at Coca-Cola Beach, DJ Tiesto in concert, Red Bull Sound Clash featuring Snoop Dogg, and many more fantastic events that made Spring Break 2011 one to remember.



March

175th TEXAS BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



Special Events

The Parks, Recreation and Beautification Committee and the City of South Padre Island held a Texas Birthday Celebration on Wednesday, March 2nd, 2011 at City Hall. Over one hundred Island residents and visitors attended the celebration that marked the 175th Anniversary of Texas Independence from Mexico. Special performances were made from the award winning Derry Dolls, Garriga Elementary Choir, and the Pack 59 of the Boy Scouts & Cub Scouts.

April

BEACH-N-BIKER FEST



On April 15th, 16th and 17th, 2011, South Padre Island hosted the 2011 Beach-N-Biker Fest Motorcycle Rally at the South Padre Island Convention Centre. This event featured a world of activities for attendees including a Poker Run, Field Events, Concerts, a Parade, Vendors, Bikini Biker wash and much, much more!



May

RED, WINE & BLUES CONCERT



The South Padre Island Parks and Recreation Committee sponsored the first annual Red, Wine, and Blues Concert on Sunday, May 29th on the beach behind Boomerang Billy's. Over 200 people brought lawn chairs or beach towels and listened to SPI's own Pelican West and Houston's Blues Star Texas Johnny Brown. The event was free to the public.

HURRICANE AWARENESS MEETING



SKYWARN

The City held an annual "Hurricane Awareness" meeting for citizens and visitors on Tuesday May 31st to better prepared for the 2011 Hurricane Season. Local officials, along with representatives from the National Weather Service, discussed the forecast for the upcoming hurricane season, reviewed what citizens need to do to be prepared, and discussed the City's plans in the event of a Hurricane.



4TH OF JULY BEACH PARADE



The red, white, and blue spirit was more than visible at the 4th of July Beach Parade, where dozens of residents and visitors gathered to celebrate the U.S. Independence. Children, teenagers, adults, and pets waved their flags, dressed in spirit, and marched in this fun and sandy beach parade that was organized by the City of South Padre Island and the Parks, Recreation & Beautification Committee.

NIGHT AT THE PARK

The Parks, Recreation and Beautification Committee hosted the first Annual “Night in the Park” at the Water Tower Park, to bring together the elected officials and the children to discuss park needs and eat ice cream together. The event was attended by Mayor Pinkerton, Mayor Pro-Tem JoAnn Evans and Council member Courtney Hayden from the City Council along with members of the community .





August

2011 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The City of South Padre Island Police Department with assistance from Environmental Health Services personnel and Fire Department hosted the 2nd annual “National Night Out” event on August 2nd, 2011, as an effort to promote community awareness, build support, and to encourage public participation in local anti-crime programs. Many residents and visitors attended the event and took part in several game and instructional booths and were able to enjoy hot dogs, refreshments and balloon figures created by the Amazing Walter.

Special Events



MUSIC IN THE PARK



Many residents and visitors participated in the first annual “Music in the Park” kids concert on Sunday, August 7th at the Water Tower Park. Music in the Park was hosted by the City of South Padre Island Parks, Recreation & Beautification Committee.

Attendees enjoyed performances by a talented local, Shayne Marie Neal, along with a special performance by Leslie Blasing. Creative face paintings and snow-cones were also provided to the delight of the crowd.

CONGRESSMAN FARENTHOLD RECEPTION



Congressman Farenthold of District 27 visited South Padre Island on Wednesday, August 24th and approximately seventy South Padre Island residents attended. Congressman Farenthold addressed various public issues including concerns on the economy, VA benefits, gun trafficking, immigration and real estate issues.



September

BASHY BEACH REGGAE FEST



The City of South Padre Island Parks, Recreation and Beautification hosted the 2011 Bashy Beach Reggae Fest on Sunday, September 4th. More than one hundred residents and visitors attended and enjoyed music by local band “Pelican West” and reggae band “Personal Use”. Attendees danced to great Reggae music. The event was a great addition to the Labor Day weekend festivities on South Padre Island.

10th ANNIVERSARY 9/11 MEMORIAL EVENT



South Padre Island residents and visitors attended the 10th Anniversary 9/11 Memorial Event on Sunday, September 11th, organized by the South Padre Island Fire Department. The highlight of the event was the unveiling of the World Trade Center artifact that was donated to the City of South Padre Island. Attendees had a chance to see, touch, and take photographs with this historical artifact.

Special Events

10th ANNIVERSARY CAUSEWAY COLLAPSE MEMORIAL



On Thursday, September 15th, 2011, the Cities of South Padre Island and Port Isabel together with the South Padre Island Parks, Recreation & Beautification Committee who organized an emotive memorial ceremony for the 10th Anniversary of the causeway collapse. The memorial gave tribute to the victims, survivors, and rescue heroes of the September 15, 2001 tragedy.

AMBULANCE DEDICATION & RECOGNITION CEREMONY



On Friday, September 30th, 2011, the Fire Department held a dedication and recognition ceremony for the new ambulance purchased. To facilitate the provision of Emergency Medical Services by the City of South Padre Island on October 1st.