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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Blossoms, Boots & Boats – All Part of Corpus Christi in April

April Provides Travelers with a Variety of Special Events

(Corpus Christi, TX – April 8, 2008) – Spring travelers will find plenty of options in Corpus Christi during the month of April with three major special events. Nature lovers and avid gardeners should save the date for the *BIG BLOOM!* at the South Texas Botanical Gardens & Nature Center (STBGNC), while boaters can't miss the *Texas International Boat Show (TIBS)* and families must see the "Richest Little Rodeo in Texas" at the *70th Annual Buccaneer Days*.

Spring kicks-off every year in Corpus Christi at the annual gardening festival and only plant sale of the year at the STBGNC. This year the *BIG BLOOM!* is set for Saturday, April 12 at the STBGNC grounds, 8545 S. Staples St. from 9am until 5pm. Not only will visitors find a variety of children activities and Curby the Recycling Robot for entertainment, admission to tour the STBGNC's 180-acres of nature trails and gardens is only one dollar all day.

Besides shopping the big annual sale for exotic flowers and plants, visitors can participate in insect releases, enjoy an insightful Orchid Seminar and take part in the Orchid Auction. Yard and patio décor from over 30 vendors will include a variety of items for purchase as well.

Boaters can't miss the only in-water boat show in the southwest region scheduled for April 24 – 27 at the downtown Corpus Christi Marina. In addition to some of the world's finest boats available today, a static aircraft display at the marina, a wakeboard rail jam featuring some of the world's top wakeboarders and daily fashion shows will ensure that *TIBS* is a truly spectacular event. Promised to be bigger and better this year by organizers, the boat show will also include a display of the latest in RVs, fast cars and fishing equipment.

Plan to bring the children along and enjoy the habitat underwater viewing tank, junior angler education, backyard fishing casting area hosted by Texas Parks & Wildlife and the displays and live demonstrations by the United States Coast Guard.

Just a short stroll along Shoreline Boulevard, visitors will find the *Buccaneer Days* in full-swing, set for April 23 – May 4. Known as the true tradition of Corpus Christi, this twelve-day celebration hosts well-recognized PRCA cowboys in a 16-event rodeo and draws hundreds of thousands to downtown Corpus Christi with an illuminated parade.

A spectacular fireworks display over the Corpus Christi Marina and a carnival with several gut-wrenching rides will leave *Buccaneer Day* guests in awe. Visitors are sure to experience the cultural flavors & sounds of South Texas at the BBQ Challenge, the Folklorica Del Mar dancing competition and the exciting line-up of Texas Music rising-stars Kevin Fowler, Cory Morrow, Rich O'Toole and Charlie Robison live in concert.

For more information on these events and to plan your trip to Corpus Christi, visit www.corpuschristicvb.com or call 1-800-678-6232. The Corpus Christi Convention and Visitors Bureau's mission is "to drive overnight visitor\$ to the Corpus Christi Area".

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