

BUSINESS

Luxury condo/marina project generating interest

Lafitte feat: Realtors are reporting robust reservation activity at Lafitte's Harbor Condominium/Marina project on the island's West End.

Stephen Dinjar of **Barefoot Properties**, which is marketing the project, said about 40 percent of the 32 condominium units already are reserved in pre-construction activity.

All the units come with a reserved "on the water" boat slip and membership to the **Galveston Country Club**. Houston-based **Stonehenge Real Estate Investment Co.** is the developer.

Covered boat slips with lifts lately are in huge demand, Dinjar said. Developers also are building a "dry stack" boat storage system for about 150 boats with valet service, which means that members can call ahead, have their boat fueled up and stocked with live bait, food and beverages.

The service also provides washing, cleaning and putting away the boat. The project, in the popular **Pirates' Cove/Lafitte's Cove** vicinity, is next to **Waterman's Restaurant**, 14302 Stewart Road.

Waterman's will remain open during construction and also will provide pool-side service and room service for the condominium owners. Unit prices are in the \$720,000 to \$840,000 range. Look for crews to begin condo construction in June or July. Marina construction is scheduled for April or May. Stay



ABOVE: Marketers of Lafitte's Harbor Condominium/Marina project on the island's West End said about 40 percent of the 32 condominium units already are reserved in pre-construction activity. **BELOW:** Developers also are building a "dry stack" boat storage system for about 150 boats.



tuned.

Kicking the tires: It's time to put the brakes on that

rumor racing around about a Dallas dealership buying Texas City's **Hamon Ford**,

2600 Palmer Highway. Owner **Tomy Hamon** said there's no truth to it. But that doesn't

mean one of the city's best known dealerships isn't available should anyone make a hard offer, Hamon said.

"Everything here's for sale except my wife, my hunting dogs and collector cars," he said.

Hamon suspects the rumor is rooted in the May 2006 sale of Hamon Bay Area to a partnership of car dealers, including **Ron Carter**, **Charles Thomas** and **Mike Hall**. The Hamon family kept the Ford franchise.

Help wanted: Notice some changes at the island's **Custom Design Tees**, 2303 Ave. M? **Jack Williams** purchased the T-shirt and screen-printing shop from **Edward Stanza**, who last year opened **Club Groove**, 2416 Postoffice St. in the island's downtown.

Williams is making changes to the shop's interior and exterior. Most locals still refer to the building as the Buick dealership.

In fact, Williams plans to refresh and revive the old Buick emblem which was inscribed in base relief on the building.

And he needs help. Does anyone have photographs of the old Buick sign? Williams wants to hear from you. E-mail him at visuals1@aol.com.

Sew there: Quilters have a new venue to keep their hobby going. **Linda Coltharp** has opened **Quilts**, 507 Bradford St. in Kemah. The store offers fabric, marking pens, sewing needs, patterns and other tools needed for hand-quilting.

A little Kinky: Author, musician, former gubernatorial candidate and humorist **Kinky Friedman** will be on the island Friday as part of Mardi Gras events and to promote his cigar line. At 5 p.m., he will be at **Hava Cigar Shop & Lounge**, 415 21st St., to promote five styles of hand-rolled stogies, including The Governor and Texas Jewboy. At 8 p.m., Friedman will attend the **Krewe Babalu's** "All Krewe Parade," which starts at 26th Street and Santa Fe Place. He'll also attend the krewe's balcony party at 21st Street and The Strand.

Coming soon: Island Realtor **V.J. Tramonte** reports of an interesting transaction involving 61st Street property. Read about it in Thursday's Biz Buzz and look for updates at Buzz Blog. galvnews.com.

Biz Buzz appears Mondays and Thursdays. We welcome your tips and suggestions. Call 409-683-5248 or e-mail laura.elder@galvnews.com.

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