



For immediate release

May 8th, 2017

To: All media

Contact: Myra Gatling-Akers

Phone: 318.329.4947

Email: Myra.gatling@ci.monroe.la.us

The News-Star and DeltaStyle Present 'Ritas on the River

The News-Star and DeltaStyle Present 'Ritas on the River at the Origin Bank RiverMarket on May 20, 2017 from 10am to 4pm at 316 South Grand St. in Monroe, LA.

The day will feature piñatas, limbo competitions, pin the tail on the donkey, live entertainment, and tastings from the hottest bars and restaurants in Ouachita Parish as they compete for bragging rights and for the title of Best Classic Margarita, People's Choice, Most Creative Alternative Flavor, and Best Dressed Margarita. RiverMarket food, shopping, and live entertainment will be held from 10am to 4pm offering sauces, salsas, herbs, snacks, food trucks, wood work, crafts, clothing, jewelry, and more!

The competitors are Brass Monkey Pub and Patio, Braiz'n Bar & Grill, Chili's Grill and Bar, Corner Bar, El Chico Café, El Jarrito Mexican Grill & Cantina, Iron Cactus, Neat/Pickle Barrel, Portico Restaurant and Bar, Restaurant Cotton, SQ's on the Ouachita, Trapp's/Fieldhouse Bar & Grill, and Warehouse No.1 Restaurant.

"We are excited that The News-Star and DeltaStyle are bringing the 'Ritas on the River to downtown Monroe. This will be a great day on the river," stated Myra Gatling-Akers, RiverMarket Director.

Schedule of Activities:

10am-4pm: Market Hours, Shopping and Food!

11am-3pm: Margarita Tastings

12pm: Pinata #1

12:15pm: Limbo Competition kids up to 8yrs

A Division of the City of Monroe Department of Community Affairs



12:30pm: Pinata #2

12:45pm Limbo Competition kids 9-15yrs

1:00pm Limbo Competition 16-20years

1:30pm Limbo Competition 21+

2:00pm Pinata #3

2:30pm Chihuahua Costume Contest

3:00pm Chihuahua Race

3:10pm Chiweenie Race

3:20pm All Dog Race

3:30pm Pinata #4

3:45pm Announce Winners of Ritas on the River

All day activities:

Pin the Tail on the Donkey, Shopping, and Food

Tickets for this event are \$25 when purchased in advance through www.ritas-on-the-river.eventbrite.com and \$30 at the door if they are not sold out in advance. This event sold out so quickly in 2016 that more tickets had to be added, and those sold out in less than 24 hours.

If you have purchased or need to purchase a ticket, you can visit our information booth. The information booth is a purple tent located directly in front of the clock tower across from the courthouse. Stop by to check in, get a wristband, and receive your ticket to the tasting.

Participants will need to bring a valid ID.

Parking can be found at the north end of the RiverMarket and at many locations near the RiverMarket. The closest parking can be found street side and in the Police Annex parking lot. Parking can also be found a short walk away across from Ouachita Grand Plaza, across from Bry Park, and along the street behind the Courthouse.

A Division of the City of Monroe Department of Community Affairs

401 Lea Joyner Expressway . Monroe, LA 71201 . Office: 318-329-4947 . Fax: 318-807-9986
DowntownRiverMarket.com



Thank you to The News-Star and DeltaStyle for presenting 'Ritas on the River, and to our sponsors Origin Bank, Monroe Civic Center, Spherion Staffing, Choice Brands, Downtown Monroe Alliance, Bears Towing, and Bayou Butts and Booze. A big thank you to our celebrity MC Mel from Rock106 and judges: Big Jim & Griffin Scott of LA105, Wendy Freeman of Southern Beverage, Catfish of Rock106, and Katie Burke of DeltaStyle.

Like us on Facebook at Downtown RiverMarket and Downtown Monroe, or the 'Ritas on the River event page to see who is participating and updates. www.downtownrivermarket.com

For more information contact Sheena, our RiverMarket Coordinator at (318) 807-1735 or email River.market@ci.monroe.la.us