Anna Belle Krewitz honored as Crawfish Festival parade marshal

By Mario Mamalakis

The crawfish has, in recent years, become the ultimate symbol used to represent the Cajun people. The image of a crawfish shows up everywhere, on bumper stickers, T-shirts, in children's books. Crawfish souvenirs are sold across Louisiana to out-of-state tourists and visitors.

Cajuns are justifiably proud of their associations with the crawfish, as evidenced by the many festivals and crawfish-industry-linked events that have taken place in Louisiana. The raison d'etre for many of these events is the purpose of developing crawfish as a commercial commodity. But crawfish ponds and crawfish-related industries must be successful in order to make the crawfish the "king of the shellfish." The crawfish, as a whole, must be marketable in order to be profitable. The crawfish industry, and industry requirements, are demanding in this production.

Until the crawfish season was legislated in 1959, there was not enough demand for crawfish to support and industry. For crawfish to be successful, there had to be enough demand within the crawfish industry and the symbol developed together. This is the story of the crawfish industry and the crawfish, something unique to Cajuns, something that only they like eating in a crawfish.

The Crawfish Festival is the second largest (tourist event in Louisiana (second only to Mardi Gras in New Orleans). Outdoors, comes to the festival to celebrate Cajuns and their heritage. Cajuns and crawfish.

Crawfish: used to represent Cajuns

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