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AROUND TOWN



24th Annual Flora-Bama Chili Cook-Off Feb. 3

Let the chopping begin. The 24th Annual Flora-Bama Super Bowl Chili Cook-Off is set for Feb. 3, Super Bowl Saturday. Teams of three can register to work their chili wizardry to win with their version of the best chili and win cash prizes in several divisions. If you don't want to cook, come by, sample the wide variety of dishes and help raise funds for The American Cancer Society and Relay for Life. Cooking begins at 10 a.m., and tasting tickets (\$2 per sample or \$10 for six samples) will be sold beginning at noon.

Participants must cook at least 4 gallons of chili and supply all cooking utensils, pots, burners, and ingredients. Teams must be willing to eat your own chili, be over 21 and pay the \$45 entry fee - a deal considering the goodie bags include event t-shirts and party favors and draft beer is free for cooks. The winner will earn a perpetual trophy and \$100. People's Choice winner earns a perpetual trophy and \$99. There are also cash prizes for second (\$75) and third place (\$50) finishers.

The cook-off usually attracts around 20 teams and raises north of \$5,000 for the designated charities. The venue is, of course, located on the Gulf of Mexico at the Florida-Alabama state line. Visit florabama.com or facebook for more info.

Pictured: Last year's event featured 25 teams cooking such delicious varieties as alligator chili, white chicken chili and Irish green chili. The American Cancer Society received a check for \$10,500 from the Flora-Bama following the event. Since the event's inception, the Super Chili Bowl Cook Off has raised more than \$70,000 for ACS.

"The Flora-Bama has strived to give something back to the community that helped them grow and prosper over the last 50 years," said Pat McClellan, co-owner of the Flora-Bama. "We currently raise more than \$150,000 annually through special events we host or sponsor. Often, we target youth groups, but we always keep it local."

Feb. 10 Run For The Gold at OWA will benefit childhood cancer fund

The 1st Annual Run for the Gold Course de Fête 5K & 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk for Childhood Cancer Awareness is scheduled at 7 a.m. on Feb. 10 at OWA in Foley. Entry fee is \$20. Sponsorship opportunities available, please email runforthe-goldal@gmail.com or private message the R4TG Facebook page for details. Sign up via runsignup.com. Visit Facebook.com/Run4GoldAL or call Ashley Navarro at 251-404-3248 for more info.

Run for the Gold is a non-profit organization. Our mission is to spread awareness, and raise funds to aid families within our community, in their fight against childhood cancer.

Feb. 8 Lifestyles EXPO

Vendor slots available

Vendor registration is still open for the 26th Annual Alabama Lifestyles EXPO, scheduled from 8 a.m. 'til 2 p.m. on Feb. 8 at Caribe Resort in Orange Beach. In addition to direct exposure to 3,000 Snowbird visitors, EXPO Exhibitors receive a complimentary listing on the EXPO website and a mailing list of attendees. Info: 205-222- 2862 or email info@AlabamaAdvantage.com.

GFWC Women's Club holds

membership meeting Feb. 6

The GFWC South Baldwin Woman's Club will host a membership drive from 6-8 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 6 at Gelato Joe's Restaurant, located at 202-A Michigan Ave in Foley. Attendees are asked to wear red to support "Go Red For Women's Health Month." The General Federation of Women's Clubs is an international women's organization dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service. Its motto is "Living the Volunteer Spirit." Info: 251-597-9120.

Orange Beach will build marina east of Sportsman City hires McCollough Architecture to design the first building

By John Mullen

The first move may seem like baby steps, but Coastal Resources Director Phillip West envisions big things for city-owned property on Terry Cove.

At the Jan. 16 city council work session, the city of Orange Beach discussed initial moves it is planning to bring development to the former Walker Marina property east of Sportsman Marina. The city bought the waterfront parcel in 2005 and uses it now for a disc golf course and a dog park.

Two firms will be hired to design and get the permitting settled to improve the boat basin with some covered slips, seawall, boat ramp and an office and storage building. The cost of this initial project at the property will be about \$1.5 million, West said.

"We need to find a place to house our marine operations, initially our Coastal Resources operations, and the new historic vessel, the Sea Duster," West said. "We want to go ahead and permit out the marina because we expect that Auburn and Alabama will be bringing some level of presence. Initially, pretty light and eventually we anticipate that whole property being built out as a research campus."

To that end, West said, Auburn is going through the RESTORE Act process trying to secure about \$9 million to build a 20,000- to a 25,000-square foot research facility on the property.

"The Auburn-led research project has gone through the first round of RESTORE and is in the second round of evaluations," West said. "That would be a \$9 million project that would follow this one. But that's best case, a couple of years down the road."

But for now, the focus will be on the boat basin improvements and the city's building. "We, initially, need a place for our three vessels and the Sea Duster as well as offices for Coastal Resources staff," West said. "And, offices for the immediate needs of the universities and whoever else might want to have that type of access."

"We'll go ahead and permit 10 slips, but right now we're going to build four, three with boat lifts, all covered slips. And get the office building which will have storage space, lab space, meeting space. All that built in. That's our short-term need."

To start that process, the city will sign a personal services contract with McCollough Architecture to design the first building for the site. West said he anticipates immediate interest from universities so the size of the building isn't set.

"We gave them a range because over the next few weeks we're going to know if we have immediate tenants or not," West said. "Basically, a minimum of 2,500 square feet up to 4,500 square feet. If the universities can immediately have offices and lab space then that's just going to facilitate all the projects we work on together. And plan to work on. Some of those being considered are under RESTORE and NRDA as well."

Work on the marina and other infrastructure will be done through TTL, a firm the city keeps on retainer to help with projects.

"We gave them a task order to do the design and permitting of the seawall, boardwalk, piers, slips and lifts," West said. "We're going to install a boat launch for us there and they'll handle that as well."

West said he hopes the work can be completed before the end of the year and would like to get started by as early as April. The city bought the five-acre parcel after Hurricane Ivan in 2004.

"I don't know if we'll be able to occupy it in 2018 but we've got to get going," he said.

The property was first bought under Mayor Steve Russo from Astrata Land Company for \$7.5 million cash, \$2.1 million land swap for lots in the Callaway subdivision on Canal Road for a total value of \$9.6 million, City Administrator Ken Grimes said.

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G.S. Woman's Club Tour of Homes is Feb. 17

The Gulf Shores Woman's Club Tour of Homes, scheduled for February 17 will feature five residences that represent life on the Gulf Coast. Homes may be toured from 9:30 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Two homes located off Fort Morgan Road will show the beach inspired style that is typical our coastal area. The Peninsula home is an example of gracious neighborhood living. The Orange Beach, which overlooks Wolf Bay, offers a breathtaking view prominent throughout the comfortable living areas of this residence. A home full of treasurers and trophies will be offered in Craft Farms. Each of the homes is unique in style and décor, and guests of the tour should be able to find a style and ideas that they would like to adapt in the own homes.

Tickets for the tour are \$20 with proceeds benefiting the Gulf Shores Woman's Club scholarship program. Tickets are available at Coastal Flowers & Design, Jubilee Apparel & Gifts and Beach House Boutique in Gulf Shores, Wildflowers Boutique in Orange Beach, and Fran's on 59 in Foley.

Local business who are home tour sponsors include Ginny Lane, Villaggio Grille and Wildflowers Boutique in Orange Beach, Remax Kevin Corcoran Team, Coastal Flowers & Design and Jubilee Apparel & Gifts in Gulf Shores and Fran's on 59 in Foley. For additional information call Tour of Homes Co-Chairs Marianne Hawkins 251-967-3212 or Karen Brown 251-233-3550. **Pictured:** Homes at Surfside Shores on Ft. Morgan, Orange Beach and The Peninsula are included on the tour.



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MARDI GRAS 2018

No shortage of Mardi Gras parade bead catching opportunities in South Baldwin County Orange Beach

Beads and MoonPies will soon be flying once again along the beach highway in Orange Beach. The good times will begin to roll with The Mystical Order of Mirams Mardi Gras Parade on Friday, Feb. 9. The parade begins on Perdido Beach Boulevard at 6:30 p.m. at the traffic signal just east of Phoenix West and it will end at intersection at Highway 161 and Perdido Beach Boulevard. For more information, visit mirams.info.

On Saturday, Feb. 10, the Mystics of Pleasure, Pleasure Island's very first nighttime Mardi Gras parading society, will hold its parade at 6 p.m. along the same route. Unlike parading groups to the west, marshals with the Mystics of Pleasure ride Harley-Davidsons, not horses. The Mystics are the first South Baldwin krewe to parade at night.

The city will hold its 2018 Orange Beach Mardi Gras Parade at 2 p.m. on Fat Tuesday, Feb. 13. Anyone who would like to participate in the parade must submit an application and pay a fee. Click here for information and the application. For more information, email Angela Bateman at abateman@cityoforangebeach.com (ch Blvd.) and ending at Hwy. 161.

If you are tailgating and watching from The Walmart Food Store, Winn Dixie or Publix parking lots, expect the parade to arrive between 2:45 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Your best bet for a relaxed & traffic free experience is to arrive plenty early and hang a hat at one of the many restaurants and bistros along the route. The staffs will definitely be ready for you and most are offering Fat Tuesday specials.

The Wharf

The Wharf joins the Mardi Gras festivities on Monday, Feb. 12 with Moon Pies on Main parades. A Kid and Pet Parade kicks off the fun at 4 p.m., followed by activities, and an evening float parade rolls at

6 p.m. For details, go to alwharf.com.

The Kid and Pet Parade starts in front of the Ferris Wheel. Get your krewe down here early and dance to live DJ entertainment. There will be loads of activities for the little ones as well, including face painting, a rock climbing wall, bouncy house, and various live animals.

The nighttime float parade at 6 p.m. This is the perfect chance to fill up that remaining empty space in your goodie bags with more beads and candy galore! Catch the SPEC-TRA Sound & Light Spectacular show directly after the parade.

LuLu's Boat Parade

The Fat Tuesday Boat Parade, departs at 3 p.m. from The Wharf and travels west along the Intracoastal Waterway to LuLu's under the Hwy. 59 Waterway Bridge, arriving around 5 p.m.

New Gulf Shores route

The City of Gulf Shores will celebrate its 40th Anniversary Mardi Gras Parade on Tuesday, February 13 at 10 a.m. Due to construction at Gulf Place (main public beach) and Highway 59, the parade route has been revised. With the new route, the parade will start at the intersection of Highway 59 and Highway 182 and roll east along Highway 182 (East Beach Blvd.) to Highway 135 at the Gulf State Park Pier. If severe weather moves in and the parade is cancelled, there will be no make-up date. For more information contact City Hall at 251-968-2425 or visit gulfshoresal.gov.

Fairhope

In addition to the Haven's Feb. 3 Mystic Mutts Parade, Fairhope will host a parade that evening when the Knights of Ecor Rouge roll. The 2nd of Fairhope's three evening parades is Maids of Jubilee on

Feb. 9. The third is the Order of Mystic Magnolias on Feb. 12.

All three of the evening parades start at 6:45 p.m. and take the same route: Fairhope Civic Center on Section Street; south on Section to Fels Avenue; west on Fels to Church Street; north on Church to Fairhope Avenue; east on Fairhope to Bancroft Street; north on Bancroft to Magnolia Avenue; west on Magnolia to Church Street; south on Church to Fels Avenue; east on Fels to Section Street; north on Section to end at the starting point.

Foley

The Foley Mardi Gras Parade rolls through city streets on the Saturday before Fat Tuesday, and this year that date is Feb. 10. The parade starts at 11 a.m. at Roosevelt and Alston streets, going north on Alston, then turns west on U.S. 98 and moving south on Oak Street.

Unlike the Mobile parades, each of which is hosted by a specific mystic society, the Foley parade is open to everyone in the area who wants to participate. Floats, trucks, antique cars, walking groups, bands. More than 25 units typically participate, and organizers stress that it's a family-friendly event.

Pirates Cove

The Krewe of the Royal Riff Raff will parade in the neighborhood surrounding Pirates Cove in Josephine on Sunday, February 11. The parade, officially the Royal Disorder of Riff-Raff Mardi-Gras Parade, will muster at 2 p.m. The Royal Disorder of Riff-Raff Mardi-Gras Ball, featuring live music, will start around 3:30 p.m. Pirates Cove is located at the south end of County Rd. 95 on Arnica Bay. County Rd. 95 is accessible from either County Rd. 20 or Hwy. 98. Although it is straight across the bay from Bear Point in Orange Beach, the rule of thumb when traveling to this unique corner of the earth for the first time is that



Fat Tuesday Pancake Day at GSUMC is from 6-10 a.m.

By Steve Means

Get ready to join in the fun of Gulf Shores newest traditions! Fat Tuesday Pancake Day is almost here. Join us at the Gulf Shores Methodist Church auditorium in the Winn Dixie shopping center from 6-10 on February 13, Mardi Gras Day. Sponsored by the United Methodist Men, tickets are \$5 in advance and \$6 at the door. Take out plates available with ticket. Tickets available at Thee Coffee Shop next to Winn Dixie. Mardi Gras is a special celebrator here in our coastal community. A day we celebrate with parades, parties and eating pancakes at the Gulf Shores First United Methodist Church. There's no better way to begin a day of floats, fun and festivities than to enjoy some hot pancakes, sausage and coffee with friends and neighbors. Fat Tuesday Pancake Day is fast becoming "the place to be" before you settle down on the parade route to enjoy the day and shout "Hey Mister, throw me something!"

Several hundreds gathered for last years breakfast and this years' event will be bigger and better than ever!! Snowbirds, visitors and locals alike gather to see old friends, make new friends and enjoy a great pancake breakfast with all the trimmings.

"Laissez les bons temps rouler." Let the good times roll. Or, as we like to say, "Laissez les bon crepes rouler." Let the good pancakes roll! Tickets available at Thee Coffee Shop in Winn Dixie Shopping Center. **Pictured:** GSUMC pancake chefs (l to r) Bob Burton, Steve Means, Jim Koeppen, Kent Vesper, Ken Matthews.

Tickets now on sale for Feb. 6 Mardi Gras Ball at LuLu's

Tickets to the 6th Annual LuLu's Birds of Paradise Mardi Gras Ball are now on sale at LuLu's Gift Shop and Online. The ball will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 6 beginning at 7 p.m. The Tip Tops will again headline the Krewe De Lu Roux sponsored event.

The \$75 per person ticket price includes open bar, delicious Cajun themed buffet, and all the fun of dancing to the South's best motown band. LuLu's will be closed to the public for this ticketed event open to those 21 and older. Dress code is Island Elegance to Tuxedo T-shirt and Flip Flops.

Call 251-967-5858 for tickets, purchase at the LuLu's Gift Shop or or shop online at lulubuffett.com. LuLu's is located under the Northside of the Hwy. 59 Bridge on the Intracoastal Waterway in Gulf Shores.

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MARDI GRAS 2018

Fat Tuesday is also anniversary celebration at Lulu's

The Annual LuLu's Anniversary and Mardi Gras Fat Tuesday Celebration will again feature New Orleans themed live music beginning at 11 a.m. on Feb. 13, an hour after doors open at the annual event. The fun continues with the arrival of the Mardi Gras Boat Parade from The Wharf at around 5 p.m.

Located at Homeport Marina (200 East 25th Ave., Gulf Shores) directly under the Hwy. 59 bridge, LuLu's opened for business on Fat Tuesday 18 years back and quickly established itself as the meeting place among those with a taste for New Orleans music on Mardi Gras day.



Grand Marshall Earl Callaway will lead O.B. parade

Although the Orange Beach based group is now defunct, the Krewe of the Mystic Isle was responsible for Orange Beach's first Fat Tuesday Mardi Gras Parade back in (he thinks) 1993, said Earl Callaway, who will serve as grand marshall of this year's parade.

As he remembers it, krewe members built and designed a flatbed float to transport the group from The Keg to an Orange Beach Sports Assn. sponsored Fat Tuesday fish-fry under the Perdido Pass Bridge.

"We had so much fun going over there on that float that we decided to try to have a parade," the Orange Beach native said. "I asked the city for \$10,000 and they unanimously voted to give us \$7,500."

Callaway, widely considered to be Orange Beach's first rock 'n roll musician, said he spent most of the stipend on marching bands.

"I tried to line up all these small school marching bands that would come play for a few hundred dollars," he said. "The rest I spent on putting local pickers on flatbed trucks."

Although he knows he is leaving out some local characters, Callaway said Dean and Sylvia Howland (who owned The Keg at the time), Robert Herrin, Billy Ray, Marlin Rogers, Virgie Stewart, Howard Bain and Larry Bratton were among the core who worked to make the first parade happen. Dorance "Montana" Hanson designed and built the Mystic Isle floats used in those early parades.

The parade was an immediate hit, but very time consuming for its organizer. After a few years, Callaway went to the city's mayor and asked that the city either take over the parade or pay him a reasonable fee for his time.

"He told me there were two things he absolutely was not going to do. The first was pay me and the second was take it over. I said 'fine' and started telling people who called about it to call City Hall and ask for the Mayor," Callaway said.

Orange Beach City Council, aware of the economic impact the parade was already generating, did take over the parade and has since added Friday and Saturday evening parades to its roster.



MARDI GRAS PARADE & PARTY SCHEDULE

Thursday, Feb 1

6:30 p.m. - Order of Polka Dots, Mobile

Friday, Feb. 2

6:30 p.m. - Order of Inca, Mobile

6:45 p.m. - Apollo's Mystic Ladies, **Daphne**

Saturday, Feb 3

1 p.m. - Mystic Mutts of Revelry Parade, downtown **Fairhope**

2 p.m. - Mystics, Mystical Revelers, Mystical Friends, Mobile

6:30 p.m. - Maids of Mirth, Butterfly Maidens, Merry Mates, Mobile

6:45 p.m. - Knights of Ecor Rouge, **Fairhope**

Sunday, Feb 4

6:30 p.m. - Neptune's Daughters, OOI, Mobile

Monday, Feb 5

6:30 p.m. - Order of Venus, Order of Many Faces, Mobile

Tuesday, Feb 6

6:30 p.m. - Order of LaShe's, Mobile

Thursday, Feb 8

6:30 p.m. - Mystic Strippers Society, Mobile

Friday, Feb 9

6:30 p.m. - Crewe of Columbus, Mobile

6:30 p.m. - Mystical Order of Mirams, **Orange Beach**

6:45 p.m. - Maids of Jubilee, **Fairhope**

8 p.m. - Krewe of Lafitte Illuminated Parade, **Pensacola**

Saturday, Feb 10

11 a.m. - Foley parade, **Foley**

10 a.m. - Mystic Krewe of K-9 Kritters, Co. Rd. 6 & Hwy. 59, **Gulf Shores**

11 a.m. - Krewe of Goats, Prichard

Noon - Floral Parade, Knights, Mystical Ladies, Order of Angels, Mobile

Noon - Mystic Revelers, **Bay Minette**

Noon - Mardi Gras Party w.King Cake, Elks Lodge, **Foley**

2 p.m. - Krewe of Mullet Mates, **Mullet Point - Point Clear**

2 p.m. - Pensacola Grand Mardi Gras Parade, downtown **Pensacola**

6 p.m. - Mystics of Pleasure, **Orange Beach**

6 p.m. - Mystics of Time, Mobile

6:45 p.m. - Shadow Barons, **Daphne**

Sunday, Feb 11

1 p.m. - Krewe of Wrecks Parade, **Pensacola Beach**

2 p.m. - Krewe of the Royal Riff-Raff, **Josephine**

2 p.m. - King Elexis I Motorcade, Mobile

2:29 p.m. - Loyal Order of the Firetruck, **Daphne**

2:30 p.m. - Joe Cain Procession, Mobile

5 p.m. - Le Krewe de Bienville, Mobile

Monday, Feb 12

Noon - Floral parade, Mobile

1 p.m. - Prichard Mardi Gras Association, Prichard

4 p.m. - Kid & Pet Parade, The Wharf, **Orange Beach**

6 p.m. - Evening Float Parade, The Wharf, **Orange Beach**

6:45 p.m. - Order of Mystic Magnolias, **Fairhope**

7 p.m. - Infant Mystics, Order of Doves, Mobile

Tuesday, Feb 13

10 a.m. - Gulf Shores Parade, **Gulf Shores** - New Beach Rd. Route

10:30 a.m. - Order of Athena, Mobile

12:30 p.m. - Knights of Revelry, King Felix III, Comic Cowboys, Mobile.

2 p.m. - Orange Beach Parade, **Orange Beach**

2 p.m. - MAMGA Mammoth Parade, Mobile

5:05 p.m. - LuLu's Boat Parade, The Wharf to LuLu's, **Pleasure Island**

6 p.m. - Order of Myths, Mobile

Krewe of K-9 Kritters Parade

Feb. 10 at Magnolia By The Gulf

The Mystic Krewe of K-9 Kritters Mardi Gras pet parade, an annual fundraiser for All About Dogs Coastal Rescue, will be held on Saturday, February 10 from 10 a.m. til noon at Magnolia By The Gulf Animal Hospital in Gulf Shores. Judges will select a king, queen, prince, princess and court jester beginning at 11 a.m.

Entry fee is \$25 per family to support All About Dogs Coastal Rescue. Dress Fido in the finest Mardi Gras attire and join in fun. The court will be invited to ride with in the Gulf Shores Mardi Gras Parade on Fat Tuesday. Magnolia By The Gulf Animal Hospital is located at the corner of County Road 6 and Hwy 59 in Gulf Shores.

Avant Garde Military Krewe celebrates 35th anniversary

Avant Garde Mardi Gras Krewe celebrates its 35th Anniversary this year with a Masquerade Ball on February 2 at the Pensacola Yacht Club. Reigning Queen Shawn McLaughlin and King Leon McLaughlin will open the festivities and crown the new King and Queen for the 2018 Season.

The Krewe enjoyed Aloha and Christmas Parties during the current membership year and will host a Parade Party on February 10 to coordinate with the Downtown Pensacola Mardi Gras Parade.

Membership includes active and retired members of the military and supporters of the military community.

Membership dues support the functions throughout the year, so admission is free to members and \$30 for guests.

Reservation information may be obtained by calling Dean Kirschner, the ball chairman, at 850-458-7988.

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MARDI GRAS 2018



11TH ANNUAL TREASURES OF THE ISLE BALL: The 11th Annual Treasures of the Isle Ball was held on Jan 20 at the Wharf Event Center. Pictured: Queen Carolyn Boe and King Corbin Smith; King, Queen and TOI members; TOI President Tim Jackson and wife Jennifer; Ball Chair Jan Mowry and husband Steve; Gulf Shores High School ROTC Color Guard. (Courtesy of C-Shelz Photography).



PIRATES OF LOST TREASURE CORONATION BALL: The Pirates of Lost Treasure celebrated their 26th Coronation Ball at the Pensacola Grand Hotel on Saturday, January 13. The Roaring 20's Speakeasy and Casino Night was the theme. South Coast DJ provided the music while many of the guests enjoyed gaming fun with Craps, Roulette, Wheel of Fortune, Blackjack, and Texas Hold 'Em. Highlight of the evening was the coronation of their royalty and court for the 2018 Mardi Gras season. Crowned by last year's King (Robert Steele) and Queen (Lynette Gutshall) were: King: Steve Joyner, Queen: Dana Peeterse, Dukes: Steve Peeterse and Brian Gutshall, Princesses: Allison Strickland and Nelda Windham.





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All You Can Eat Pasta Bar
Includes Salad and Garlic Bread
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Tuesday

Two For Tuesday
Chicken Piccata
Wild Rice and Mixed Vegetables
Lemon Caper Cream Sauce

Or

Slow Roasted Beef
Wild Rice and Mixed Vegetables
Au Jus Gravy
2 Glasses of House Wine
2 Entrees and Chef's Choice of Dessert
\$22.95

Wednesday

Burgers and Brews
Our fresh ground double patty burgers all
come with fries. Wash it down with one
of our eight Alabama Craft Beers.
All of our Alabama Craft beers on tap
are half price until 9pm.
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Thursday

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Gulf Shrimp, Blue Crab, Spinach
Roasted Tomatoes with Parmesan Cream
and a House Green Salad
\$12.95

Friday

A.Y.C.E. Fish
French Fries and Hushpuppies
Did we mention it is All You Can Eat!
\$17.95

Saturday

Prime Rib
Salad and Baked Potato
with Butter and Sour Cream
\$15.95

AROUND TOWN



Free Breakfast at Grace Lutheran's Feb. 10 Yard/Bake Sale

Grace Lutheran Church will host its annual free pancake breakfast and Yard Sale on Saturday, February 10. A Bake Sale and Book Sale will also be combined with this event at the church. All funds raised go to the Christian Service Center of Gulf Shores.

Church members will serve pancakes and sausage from 7-11 a.m. Grace Lutheran is located in Gulf Shores at the corner of West 23rd Avenue and West 4th Street (491 West 23rd Avenue), about three blocks northwest of the Bodenhamer Recreation Center. The breakfast is free, with an opportunity to give a voluntary cash gift to the Christian Service Center. A large collection of baked goods will be offered for sale. Some furniture, household items, clothing, many books, movies, and white elephants will also be offered for sale. Items will be sold from 7 a.m. until noon. The proceeds from the breakfast and all items sold will be donated to the Christian Service Center. The Christian Service Center provides help to residents and visitors who have a financial emergency by providing food, emergency housing, gasoline, utilities and medical expenses, and helps find other resources to meet needs. Grace Lutheran Church has partnered with the center for many years as a way of meeting the needs of our neighbors on the island.

For more information about the breakfast or items for sale, or to donate items for sale, call the church office at (251) 968-5991, or call Al at (251) 980-1813.

Pictured: Breakfast, clothing & bake sale customers at the 2017 event.



Our Lady of the Gulf Rosary Society Bake Sale & More Feb. 10

The Altar Rosary Society of Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church in Gulf Shores will host its annual Bake Sale and More on February 10 from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. Besides a delicious selection of baked goods for sale, there will be homemade candy, homemade soups and chili, mosaic pots and other homemade craft items. Basket raffle and 50/50 drawing tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5. The sale will be in the Parish Hall adjoining the church located at 308 E 22nd Ave. Gulf Shores. All proceeds from the sale will go to support the many charitable efforts of the ARS.

Food collection drive for 325 Zero Hunger Feb. 11

A food collection for 325 Zero Hunger, a non-profit mission is to end childhood hunger in the 32506 and 32507 zip codes of Escambia County, will be held at Artworks Studio and Gallery at 13700 Perdido Key Dr. in Villagio Center on Feb. 11 from 11 a.m. 'til 4 p.m. Children's art activities will be available throughout the day.

Over 60 percent of Escambia County public school students, roughly 24,000 children, rely on the school system for at least two free or reduced price meals a day during the school year. Approximately 1,500 to 2,000 of the 24,000 eligible students will receive meals during a part of the summer provided through the USDA programs. The remaining 22,000 are left to make other arrangements. 325ZeroHunger is working with seven elementary and middle schools in our geographic area and will make sure that our food contributions are distributed to those children and families in need in our area. We encourage you to bring several food contributions for this wonderful charity. The following food items would be greatly appreciated by families this organization serves: Pasta, Pasta Sauce (in a can, not glass), Rice, Canned Beans, Canned Chicken, Canned Tuna, Chili, Ravioli, Peanut Butter, Cereal, Oatmeal, Grits.

Gulf Islands National Seashore named Florida's top attraction

Gulf Islands National Seashore, which includes Johnson Beach on Perdido Key, was named the best attraction in the state of Florida by 10Best, a travel content provider under USA Today.

Although it also includes beaches in Mississippi, in Florida, it stretches from Perdido Key on the state's westernmost waterfront and continues at Pensacola Beach's Fort Pickens National Park.

Undulating with the Panhandle's patent dunes of talcum sands, this continuum of platinum sandscape feels otherworldly and primitive, according to the 10Best.com news release. and the Santa Rosa Area

Clearwater Beach - Clearwater, Darling National Wildlife Refuge in Sanibel, Dry Tortugas National Park, Crystal River Complex in Crystal River and the St. Augustine Historic District placed 2nd through fifth in online voting.

Universal Orlando Resort, Walt Disney World Resort, Bahia Honda State Park and Kennedy Space Center also placed in the top 10.

A panel of experts partnered with 10Best editors to picked the initial 20 nominees, and the top 10 winners were determined by popular vote.

26th O.B. Seafood Fest Feb. 24 at The Wharf

The 26th Annual Orange Beach Seafood Festival, featuring a full day of seafood, kids activities, 95 arts & craft vendors, live entertainment and a car show, will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. along Main Street @ The Wharf. Other activities include a 50/50 split the pot and table top swap meet.

Delectable foods being offered include Shrimp & Andouille Jambalaya, Mac & Cheese, Seafood Gumbo, Firecracker Shrimp, Crab Cakes, Lobster Rolls, Fried Potatoes, Blackened Shrimp Tacos, Gourmet Burgers, Blackened Shrimp Po-Boys, Fried Fish, Chicken Fingers, Grilled Oysters, Pepper Shrimp, Tuna, Crab Bisque, Crawfish Beignets, BarBQ Ribs, Specialty Coffee & Gelato.

The event is the primary fundraiser for the Orange Beach Sports Association, which supports youth sports in Orange Beach.

Two stages featuring blues, classical guitar, brass instruments and local performers, including Savannah Litton, David Jones & Friends, Jon Crawford, Funky Lampshades and Andrew Weaver, Maura Hawkins.

More info: obparksandrec.com.

Christian Service Center Spaghetti Dinner Feb. 20

The Christian Service Center will host its annual spaghetti dinner on February 20 at the Gulf Shores United Methodist Church, Building B (in the Winn Dixie Shopping Center), from 4:30 - 7 p.m. Dine in and drive through will be available. The \$10 tickets are available at the door or in advance at the Christian Service Center, 317 Dolphin Avenue, Monday through Friday, 9 AM - Noon.

In its 26th year, the Christian Service Center is a "Hand Up" rather than a "Hand Out" agency. Clients are given immediate emergency aid as well as guidance on finding solutions to their problems.

The CSC is a 100% volunteer agency funded by the churches of Pleasure Island, various community organizations, including the United Way of Baldwin County, and interested individuals. For more information please call the CSC at 251-968-5256 or visit cscgs.com.

Presenting sponsor for the dinner is the Holy Spirit Thrift Shop.

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WE NOW DELIVER!

Pine Beach Trail on Alabama Top 10 winter hike list

Bon Secour Refuge trails are just a few miles west of Hwy. 59

Pine Beach Trail through Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge has been named of Alabama's top 10 winter hikes.

Located just a few miles west of Hwy. 59 on Ft. Morgan Rd., Pine Beach Trail weaves through a series of impressive sand dunes before arriving at the snowy white beaches of the

Gulf at one of the most pristine and secluded beaches on the coast.

This is an easy 4-mile out-and-back that begins in a maritime wetland and forest. Farther on, it weaves through a series of impressive sand dunes bedecked with waving sea oats before arriving at the snowy white beaches of the Gulf.

Be sure to pack a lunch, and about a mile into the hike stop at a two-story platform to view birds and other wildlife. And don't forget, the dunes play host to many species of wildlife and help protect the mainland from devastating storms. Because of this they are federally protected, meaning you should stay on the marked trail.

Across Alabama you'll find plenty of amazing trails that are perfect for winter hikes, whether your wish to wind through calm woods or seek a stunning mountain view, the soothing sounds of a cascading waterfall, or just a quiet spot beside a placid lake

Here are nine other top winter hikes in Alabama The Beautiful.

Shoal Creek Preserve

If you're in Florence in north-west Alabama and you need a holiday break, head to the trails of the Shoal Creek Preserve, where two magnificent trails interconnect and allow you to do loop hikes. If you want to walk for just an hour or so, try the 2.4-mile lollipop loop hike on the Lawson Branch Trail, or a 2.5-mile walk on the Jones Branch Trail. For a longer jaunt, combine the two for a great 4.3-mile double loop.

No matter how you hike the preserve, you're in for a treat, as the

Jones Branch and Lawson Branch are home to babbling cascades and other tranquil water features.

Cane Creek Nature Preserve

A lot has been written about Cane Creek Nature Preserve and for good reason—the combination of geology, wildflowers, and rushing streams makes this a remarkable site to hike no matter what the season.

Located in Tuscumbia, the preserve has more than 15 miles of trails that intertwine, giving you almost unlimited hiking possibilities.

Of course, you won't see a

lot of wildflowers during the holiday season, but the landscape more than makes up for it. Take in a panoramic view of the canyon and surrounding hills from "The Point," as hawks and eagles soar around you. Then, make your way into the canyon to several rock shelters, many of which are adorned with tumbling waterfalls.

Monte Sano State Park

Ringling the top of Monte Sano Mountain, the North and South Plateau trails make a double loop hike to beautiful overlooks. Joe Cuhaj Circling the top of Huntsville's Monte Sano Mountain, the Plateau Loop runs through Monte Sano State Park and provides nice views during winter. Traversing relatively easy and level terrain, this 5.4-mile double loop is comprised of the 1.9-mile North Plateau Trail and the 3.5-mile South Plateau Trail.

The South Plateau leads you to some nice overlooks, the best being the rock outcropping known as O'Shaugnessy Point, which is located about halfway through the loop.

The North Plateau takes you to another overlook and a short side trail near the park's picnic area. If you follow the side trail, you'll reach a nice waterfall where you can sit and contemplate all of those amazing hiking gifts you'll see under the tree this year.

DeSoto Falls Loop

DeSoto State Park is a beautiful park in and of itself, but add a dusting of snow—as is often the

case during the holidays—and it becomes magical.

A favorite of hikers this time of year is the Falls Loop, which actually includes three of the park's trails—Laurel Falls, Lost Falls, and Azalea Cascade—to form a 3.1-mile loop. As their names imply, each is a beautiful waterfall tumbling down the sandstone rocks, offering hikers the sound of a soft, soothing cascade as a holiday gift.

Sipsey Wilderness

Around just about every corner you'll pass towering sandstone canyon walls with cascading waterfalls. Chuck Clark Pick a route, any route through the Sipsey Wilderness, and you're guaranteed an amazing winter hike. Around just about every corner you'll pass towering sandstone canyon walls with cascading waterfalls. Plus, you can stroll beside the beautiful, clear waters of the Sipsey River. With 45 miles of trails, the wilderness holds a wide variety of hiking options, from easy walks to lengthy, challenging treks.

Cahaba River Trail

A holiday celebration wouldn't be complete without a walk through the pines. At the Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge, you can stroll down an impressive aisle of longleaf and loblolly pines on the Piper Interpretive Trail.

This 2.3-mile out-and-back hike not only leads you through impressive stands of pine trees, but it also visits high rocky bluffs

that offer views of shoals on the Cahaba River.

To complete a loop, you can return on an old road, but be aware that the road is covered with gravel stones that measure 2 to 3 inches and make walking difficult.

Flagg Mountain Loop

Hikers sometimes say that Flagg is "so tall it generates its own weather." Joe Cuhaj Flagg Mountain is recognized as the last mountain more than 1,000-foot tall in the southern Appalachians. Hikers sometimes say that Flagg is "so tall it generates its own weather." Of course, that's a joke, since the mountain is only 1,152 feet tall. But, it does snow on Flagg, and when it happens the 1.8-mile Flagg Mountain Loop Trail is simply beautiful.

The loop is created by joining two trails, the Yellow and White Trails. If you go, be sure to add the extra 0.6-mile out-and-back from where the two trails join together to view the 1930s craftsmanship of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). Along this stretch you'll see cabins made of logs that were hand hewn for a proposed state park that never was.

Conecuh Forest Pond Loop

The Conecuh National Forest in Andalusia has several great trails for backpacking and day hiking. In winter during the holiday season, many of the trails are shared with hunters, but you can still

safely enjoy this beautiful longleaf pine forest along the Pond Loop Trail.

This loop is actually a collection of several different segments of the white-blazed Conecuh Trail, and they stretch approximately 2.2 miles when joined together. To

begin the hike, start with a loop around the Open Pond Recreation Area's namesake, Open Pond. Then, head off to circle the dark, placid waters of

Ditch, Buck, and Alligator Ponds, where you might see wood ducks and wild turkeys, as well as Bobwhite Quail darting in and out of the brush.

If you need to extend your holiday respite, the Open Pond Recreation Area has a 5-star campground that's the perfect for a good old fashioned family winter campout.

Perdido River Trail

If you have plans to visit the Alabama Gulf Coast this holiday season and want to get away from the normal tourist trappings, take a hike along the Perdido River Trail. Located in Robertsdale, the trail is now almost 20 miles long, but the first segment from the south trailhead makes a wonderful 4-mile winter out-and-back hike.

The trail follows the banks of its namesake river, which runs along the border of Alabama and Florida. As you walk, you'll be treated to beautiful sandbars and an Atlantic cedar swamp. Plus, there's a good chance you'll see bald eagles soaring overhead.

The trail weaves through a series of impressive sand dunes before arriving at the snowy white beaches of the Gulf



Valentines Day

February 14th, 2018

BEGINNINGS

Thai me up Coconut Oysters
Mon Louis Oysters, On the Half Shell
Coconut Foam, Red Thai Curry
Mint & Shallot Slaw

Bacon, Egg and Cheese
Chappapella Farm's Pork Belly, Quail Egg
Sweet Home Farm Elberta Crisp
Micro Parsley

SALAD or SOUP

Bouquet of Artisan Greens
or
Parsnip Bisque
Shaved Black Truffles and Crème Fraiche

ENTRÉE CHOICE

Tempura Cold Water Lobster Tails
Mirin Sticky Rice
Roasted Edamame Puree
Asparagus Ginger Slaw
Citrus Ponzu

or

Waygu Flat Iron Steak
Polenta Gratin, Smoked Prosciutto
Spinach, Sweet Home Farms Cheese
Topped with Italian Salsa Verde

DESSERT

Milk Chocolate Cremeaux
Strawberry-Buttermilk Sherbert
Clementine Champagne Jelly
Pecan Butter Snow

\$75 per person
+ tax and gratuity

Voyagers
Contemporary Coastal Cuisine



Gulf Shores seeks RESTORE Act funds for youth environmental camp; turning lane at Waterville may be delayed 'til after the summer season

By John Mullen

The city is hoping to land a RESTORE Act grant to start an environmental camp to teach youth about natural resources and how to protect them.

Mayor Robert Craft revealed the effort at the end of a recent council meeting. At Monday's meeting, the council also agreed to take over a state effort to widen Alabama 59 to extend the southbound left turn lane into Waterville by about 190 feet to accommodate more cars. And, the council OK'd an effort by the fire department to secure grant money to replace 65 self-contained breathing equipment packs for the city's firefighters.

Craft said the project scored well compared to others submitted for RESTORE Act funding. Widely used engineering consultant Volkert was hired to study each of the submissions presented to the council.

"This one came out very high on the list," Craft said. "I'm not overconfident but I'm hopeful that we will get this assigned to us and we will get started on that. Ideally, it would be open for camp in 2020. I'm hopeful that at our RESTORE council meeting and we're going to be selecting projects to move forward."

"We are already stopping traffic southbound twice. That's untenable and we can't allow that. To do three at the same time is just absolutely not possible."

elements of the environment, the different opportunities to expose our youth to the proper way to take care of the environment."

The Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville has had great success with its camp for many years and it attracts not only Alabama kids but campers from around the country and the world.

"A mirror of Space Camp to bring kids in from around the state to live in the environment and understand the human interaction with the environment and how we project it," Craft said. "And the consequences if we don't. I think it's an important opportunity for us to be able to teach the next generation to do a better job than we've done in protecting the environment."

Craft said while the final details are still being worked out, the campus will likely be on city-owned property adjacent to Gulf State Park.

According to Baldwin County tax records the city owns two large parcels on the south side of 22nd Avenue East between East Sixth Street and East 10th Street with park land on the south side and Alabama Department of Revenue land on the east side. The city also owns two parcels with road frontage on Fort Morgan Road in front of Wal-Mart that abut state park property on the east, according to the records.

ROAD WORK

On the Alabama 59 widening, Public Works Director Mark Acreman said the state's initial plan was to complete the project before starting the resurfacing of the roadway from the beach to the Intracoastal Waterway bridge. The goal is to increase the turn lane capacity from one car to 11 or 12 queuing up to turn into Waterville.

"Unfortunately, they were not able to get their plans ready by that time," Acreman said. "They said they were going to let this project later in the year and intend to start sometime in June or July. Obviously, something we would not be excited about doing."

Craft said this project would be one of many going on in the city that needs to be completed by May 1 ahead of the busy summer season. Among those are work at the County Road 6 and Alabama 59 intersection, the bridge on Alabama 59 north of Windmill Ridge, adding sidewalks on beach road and phase two of the Gulf Place Revitalization Project.

"We are already stopping traffic southbound twice," Craft said. "County Road 6 and at the bridge. That's untenable and we can't allow that. To do three at the same time is just absolutely not possible."

To minimize another tie up along the city's main thoroughfare, Acreman said the work near Waterville would be bid as a night-time project.

Acreman said the state agreed to let the city take over the widening project but ALDOT will still foot the bill of about \$300,000 for construction, engineering, testing and inspection.

"We approached ALDOT and asked would allow the city to take the lead on the project so we can expedite the procurement process, get a contractor selected and also to

oversee and implement the construction work," he said. "The city has received a set of plans from DOT that is about 95 percent complete. We want to submit it and get the permitting as soon as possible."

If the state is slow to get permitting for the job, Acreman said, it may not be possible to get the project completed by the May 1 target date.

"If ALDOT does not turn that permit around in a timely manner and we cannot proceed and have it done before summertime, our goal will be to start it immediately after the summer so we don't have any impact on Highway 59 in the middle of the summer season," Acreman said. "If we cannot finish this project by May 1 it would be my recommendation not to start it until after Labor Day."

Curbs will be moved two feet wider on each side of the road for the room to make the turn lane longer. Acreman said the lanes would be slightly narrower but still meet state standards.

"We're focused on getting this place ready for the summer, NCAA volleyball championship, the first part of May and here we go from there," Craft said. "You see a lot of stuff going on but it'll all come together."

FIREFIGHTER GRANT

Deputy Fire Chief Keith Martin told the council the fire department would soon have to replace all of the self-contained breathing units at a cost of \$450,000. But he hopes a grant covering 95 percent of that cost can be secured.

"It's available through Homeland Security known as an Assistance to Firefighters grant," Martin said. "This year the top priority is the replacement of the equipment we're using, the packs and air packs we wear on our backs when we go into dangerous situations where the atmosphere could be detrimental to the firefighter. We set these up to start replacing them with the 2019 budget."

Martin said the fire department planned to request \$150,000 a year in 2019 through 2021 to buy the new equipment. But wanted to start the grant process now to hopefully defray most of those costs.

"We thought this is going to be a great opportunity for us to apply for this because if we get it, we'll wind up only having an output of \$21,000 versus an outlay of \$450,000," he said. "These are items that are going to have to be replaced. They are at the end of their lifecycle. It's going to be something we're going to have to do but our hope is that by one of these grants we'll get that money."

COUNCIL ALSO...

- Approved an assembly permit for the Zydeco Crawfish Festival 5K run on April 14. The run will start at Acme Oyster House and will go west on West Canal Drive to West Fifth Street, south to Clubhouse Drive, east to East Second Street to east on West Canal and the finish line.
- Approved an assembly permit for the Bloody Mary 5K run on Sept. 1 which will be staged at Tacky Jack's in Gulf Shores. It will follow the same route as the Zydeco Crawfish 5K run.
- Agreed to the purchase of a handicap-accessible 12-passenger for \$49,000 and another 15-passenger van costing \$39,000 for the Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department.
- Set a public hearing date of Jan. 29 to discuss and vote on the transfer of a liquor license to Pinnacle 14 Theaters located in Pelican Place on Alabama 59. Pinnacle bought out the former Cobb Theater and also wants to add a table wine license as well.
- Agreed to retire Sgt. Joseph Taylor's canine officer, Nanuk, who has developed age issues impairing his ability to continue. The city authorized Taylor keeping Nanuk as a pet.
- A lobbying contract with Christie Strategy Services for working on behalf of the city's interests in Montgomery. The city will pay \$10,000 per quarter plus meals, mileage, lodging and other expenses.

PICTURED: The widening of the west side of the Alabama 59 bridge north of Original Oyster House shopping center is one of several road projects underway in Gulf Shores. (John Mullen Photo)



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WHAT'S HAPPENING



*"A pretty incredible impact.
We love telling the story."*

By John Mullen

The way Orange Beach Animal and Care and Control program and Animal Officer Tom Conerly reads the numbers, the new Trap, Neuter, Return effort by the city to control stray and feral cat populations in Orange Beach, the first year was a great success.

Orange Beach agreed to partner with the Orange Beach Animal Care and Control Program back in September. The city bought the first 20 traps and donated \$1,100 to the newly formed charitable organization.

"If you do the math, those 51 females we have spayed and put back, we have prevented the birth 472 kittens in that first year," Conerly told the Orange Beach City Council at a recent meeting. "It's a pretty incredible impact. We love telling the story, it's a great project and it's a great program."

The program is going to concentrate a new effort at the western edge on the beach road where there is a thriving colony at about three condo complexes. Donations to keep the program going are always helpful, Conerly said.

To donate visit the Orange Beach Animal Care and Control Program's Facebook page.

WED, JAN 31

- **Flora-Bama Possible Probables:** 2 p.m. 'til; (Sched. on pages 32-33), Flora-Bama, Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Bingo:** free; 1-4 p.m.; great prizes, family friendly; 17401 Perdido Key Dr., Perdido Key.
- **Snowbird Listings:** Snowbird oriented events on pages 52 to 61.
- **Open Mic:** 5:30; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
- **Frankie G. On Piano:** 6:30; Franco's Italian Restaurant; Orange Beach.
- **John Lee Sanders:** 6; Voyagers Restaurant at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
- **David Ellis:** 6; The Lobby Bar at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
- **Snowbird Dinner Dance w. Ron, Burt & Marvin:** 6-9 p.m.; The Cove Restaurant & Grill; Gulf Shores.
- **Lisa Zanghi & Scott Koehn:** 6:30; Flip-pers, Orange Beach.
- **Shaggy J & The Coastal Vibrations:** 6; The Purple Parrot; Perdido Key.
- **Karaoke:** 10; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- **Karaoke:** 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- **Shelby Brown:** 3 p.m.; The Intracoastal

at The Wharf; Orange Beach.

- **John Joiner & Friends:** 7; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke:** 9; The Office, Foley.
- **Big Beach Running Club:** 5:30 p.m.; Big Beach Brewery in Gulf Shores; all levels welcome.
- **Family Night Dinner & Activities:** 5:45 p.m.; Saint Andrew by the Sea, 17263 Fort Morgan Rd., Gulf Shores; 678-361-2762.
- **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis:** 7:30 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center; corner of West 19th Ave. and West 2nd St.
- **Veteran's Bingo:** 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; American Legion Post 99, Foley.
- **Grief Support Group:** 10 a.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Activities Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola; 850-492-2135
- **Food Bank:** 9-11 a.m. every Wednesday, Perdido Bay Baptist Church, 12600 Sorrento Rd. Pensacola; call for eligibility requirements at (850) 492-2604.
- **Bread Ministry:** 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Orange Beach United Methodist Church Brook's Center.
- **Food Ministry For Hungry Families:** noon-1 p.m.; Grace Lutheran Church, cor-

O.B. Animal Care & Control Program neuters 100th cat

After 120 days in action, the Orange Beach Animal Care and Control Program (OBACCP) and Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) programs returned its 100th cat, Centennial, to the outdoor location where it was found.

Volunteer Denise Becker put forth extraordinary effort in catching the cat on Jan. 21 in Orange Beach. After trapped, Centennial was taken to Canal Road Animal Hospital for neutering and vaccinating before being returned to its outdoor location.

"Dr. Julie Taylor, Dr. Teresa Russell and the highly experienced team at Canal Road Animal Hospital are a valuable asset to our community and the TNR program", said Tom Conerly, the Animal Control Officer for the O.B. Police Dept.

Trap-neuter-return (TNR) entails trapping, neutering, vaccinating, and returning community cats to their original outdoor locations. It is not only the most humane method of preventing cats from entering the shelter system; it's the most effective.

TNR is the only proven effective method of controlling the otherwise exponential growth in stray and feral cat colonies. Mayor Kennon and the Orange Beach City Council endorsed this proactive, progressive and humane effort. The city's dedication as committed partners will make Orange Beach a better place to live for our citizens and our cats.

TNR also ensures the cats' health and welfare. Once these cats are sterilized and vaccinated, they can live healthy, happy lives in their communities, where caring residents look out for them.

Sterilization and vaccination provide a public health benefit to the community, too, a vast improvement over the failed trap-and-kill approach that's been used for generations.

Currently, over 430 local governments have officially embraced TNR to successfully manage their community cat populations. Volunteers and donations are important to the success of the program. Tax-deductible contributions are used toward caring for and improving the lives of our Orange Beach animals. This is a resource for animal advocates, dedicated community cat caregivers, and volunteers driving change and accelerating protection for community cats and our other animals in Orange Beach. For more info, visit obaccp.org or Facebook or Instagram. Or call 800-829-1040.



Brent Burns & Bill Whyte showcase Feb. 16 at GlenLakes

Two old friends will present evening of rip roaring laughs & music

Nashville songwriter Bill Whyte will join Brent Burns on stage on Friday, February 16 at GlenLakes Golf Club for a night of original music and fun. A meet-n-greet starts at 4:30 p.m., and Bunker Café at GlenLakes will be open for food and beverage purchases. The show is from 6-8:30 p.m.

Show Tickets are \$25/per person. Space is limited, and reservations are required. For ticket reservations, contact Brent at 251-948-8863. GlenLakes is located ½ mile east of the Foley Beach Expressway on County Rd. 20 at 9530 Clubhouse Dr. in Foley.

Besides being a member of the Country Broadcaster's Hall of Fame, Bill Whyte is also a prolific songwriter. Bill's song "Crickets" was the title cut on one of Joe Nichols CD's. Grammy winners Linda Davis and Ray Stephens have recorded his songs. Cledus T. Judd and Brady Seals have also recorded Bill's songs.

"Anytime we're on stage together it's a riot with lots & lots of laughter," said Burns, the Gulf Shores based songwriter and award winning Troprock performer. Brent's hilarious parodies and songs, including "If It's Snowbird Season, Why Can't We Shoot 'Em," have received airplay around the world.

Seeing Whyte and Burns together is a can't miss performance.



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Mass times are: 8:30 a.m., Noon & 5:15 p.m.

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BIG TEN

WHAT'S HAPPENING



CONGRATULATIONS DATHAN BUTT: Baldwin County children submitted handmade Christmas Ornaments to the Baldwin County Sewer Service for a chance to win prizes for themselves and their school. Dathan Butt won the 4th-8th grade category of the ornament contest. He received \$100 and Gulf Shores Middle School received \$500. Congratulations Dathan!



SOUTH BALDWIN DEMOCRATS: The South Baldwin Democrats held a winter celebration on Jan. 28 at Bayforest Clubhouse in Foley. The organization covers the communities of Foley, Gulf Shores, Orange Beach, Elberta, and Lillian. In the past year, the club supported the MLK March in Foley and attended local events for the Women's March. They raised funds for the Gulf Shores High School students who were injured in the Mardi Gras parade and helped organize the renewal of the GSHS Young Democrats Club. With 33 Senate seats, 39 gubernatorial seats, and 435 Congressional seats all up for election in 2018, along with important legislative issues daily being debated, the SBD will continue their work this year. **Pictured:** At a local Doug Jones campaign stop with his wife Louise Jones as speaker: Penny Eilert, Darlene Fero, Pam Skaggs, Louise Jones, Randy DeGuire, Amoreena Brewton, and Helen Clark.



SIBLING SIGHTING: Sibling sighting at Gulf Shores Elementary School! L to r: Second grader Caden Elkins and his sister, fifth grader Raelyn Elkins, were all smiles when they ran into each other at school.



G.S. GARDEN CLUB SUPPORTS SEA, SAND & STARS: The Gulf Shores Garden Club recently presented a \$500 check to the faculty at Orange Beach Elementary School in support of its Sea, Sand, and Stars facility. Located on campus, the facility features a beautiful 5,800 gallon aquarium with a large variety of gulf fish and a 1,500 gallon touch tank. In addition, the facility has a 38-seat planetarium with a Digital Alpha II Projector, a microscope laboratory allowing students to get a closer look at marine life and an 800-foot boardwalk leads to four large outdoor gazebo classrooms where students learn about birds, plants, amphibians, reptiles, and insects. There is also a weather station complete with measuring and monitoring technology. The facility draws 4,000 students per year from across the region. **Pictured:** (l to r) June Peterson, Jean Lorentz, Pat Famoso, Diane Farnham, Candy Snedeker, Charlotte Higgins, Nicole Bryant, Nicki Walker, Jenni Tyler, Kim Edgerton and Pat Buysse.

ner of West 23rd Ave. and West 4th St. in Gulf Shores; 251-968-5991.

• **Perdido Key Rotary Club:** 7:30 a.m.; every Wednesday at Triggers. 850.492.8335.

• **Storytime at Pensacola Southwest Branch Library:** free; infant to 5; 10:30-11; 12238 Old Gulf Beach Hwy; (850)453-7780.

• **Gulf Shores Lions Club:** noon; 2nd & 4th Wednesday; noon; Gulf Shores Community House, 300 E. 16th Avenue; 251-968-2823.

• **AA:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

THU, FEB 1

• **Firkin Tapping & Fresh Music II:** 6 p.m.; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.

• **Mystic Goat Hellies Bock Beer Release:** 6 p.m.; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.

• **Flora-Bama Possible Probables:** 2 p.m. 'til; (Sched. on pages 32-33), Flora-Bama, Perdido Key.

• **Flora-Bama Bingo:** 1-4 p.m.; Flora-Bama Loung Tent Stage; Perdido Key.

• **Snowbird Listings:** Snowbird oriented events on pages 52 to 61.

• **LeAnn Creswell & Lisa Zanghi:** 6:30; Franco's Italian Restaurant; Orange Beach.

• **Lefty Collins:** 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.

• **Open Mic:** 7; Snapper's; Orange Beach.

• **Ole River String Band:** 6:30; Original Point Restaurant, Pensacola.

• **Alabama Lightning:** 6:30; Flippers, Orange Beach.

• **John Lee Sanders:** 6; Voyagers Restaurant at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.

• **John Brust:** 6; The Lobby Bar at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.

• **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.

• **Rick Whaley & Tommy Mazullo:** 6; The Purple Parrot; Perdido Key.

• **Paxton Norris:** 7; Hub Stacy's at The Point, Pensacola.

• **Karaoke:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.

• **Karaoke:** 8; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.

• **Karaoke:** 10; The Undertow; Orange Beach.

• **8 Ball APA:** 7:30; The Office, Foley.

• **Bingo:** 10 a.m.; American Legion Post 44, 6781 Gulf Shores Pkwy (AL Hwy 59), Gulf Shores.

• **Rotary Club of Gulf Shores/Orange Beach:** noon; Gulf Shores Golf Club; visiting Rotarians and guests invited.

• **Gulf Shores United Methodist Church Bread Ministry:** 9-10; every Thursday; room 103 on the south campus, next to Crossroad; 251 968-2411.

• **Grief Support Group:** noon-1:30 p.m.; First Presbyterian Church of Foley; 195 E. Berry Ave.; for all who are grieving; 943-8325.

• **Adult Bible Study:** 10 a.m.; Gulf Shores Presbyterian Church; all welcome; (251)

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WHAT'S HAPPENING



AL. Fish Art Contest Deadline March 31

The 20th annual State-Fish Art Contest is currently open with an entry deadline of March 31. Judging takes place in four categories based on school grade level. For more information visit: wildlifeorever.org.



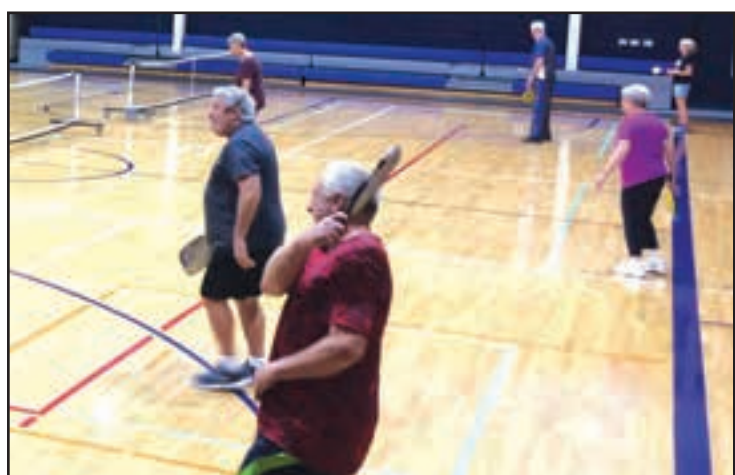
Growers at forefront of local food movement will speak at February 18 forum in Fairhope

By Mike Healy

The Local Food Production Initiative presents its Local Producers Serving Local Consumers forum on Sunday, February 18 at Jubilee Shores United Methodist Church, located at 17261 AL 181, Fairhope. Doors will open at 1 p.m., with presentations beginning at 2 p.m. Upon completion of presentations, there will be a question & answer period.

Depending upon weather, a tour of JSUM church community gardens and main garden will be given both before and after our meeting. A \$5 donation at the door is suggested. More info: fairhopelocalfood.org or Local Food Production Initiative on Facebook, or call 251-504-1173 or 251-978-94442.

The will feature three growers at the forefront of the local food movement - Stewart Perkins of Nature Nine Farms, David Eckman of Eckman Farm, and Terry Underwood, the Mushroom Man. Our Forum will be held



Coastal Alabama Pickleball Tourney starts Feb. 27 in Foley

The Coastal Alabama Pickleball Club has announced dates and opened registration for the first event in its 2018 CAPC Tournament Series. The event will be held February 27, 28, & March 1 at the Foley Event Center, and registration is open through Feb. 22 (coastalalabamapickleball-club.com). The event includes men's, women's and mixed divisions, with pool play to determine seeds, double elimination to determine 1st, 2nd & 3rd place. Each participant in the tournament is required to bring at least one non-perishable food item in addition to their registration fee. The food item will benefit the Christian Service Center. Cost is \$5 per participant per division. The tourney includes a March 1 pickleball clinic by Eddie McDonald, USAPA Ambassador, from 12:30-3 p.m.

Pictured: Open play at the Orange Beach Rec Center.



Volunteers needed for Feb. 17 floating cleanup of Fish River & Weeks Bay

Join the Weeks Bay Foundation and Thompson Engineering for the 2nd Annual February Floating Cleanup of Fish River and Weeks Bay on Feb. 17 from 10 a.m. noon at the Tonsmeire Resource Center, under the Fish River Bridge on Hwy. 98. This paddling cleanup is a great way to help get the trash out of hard to reach spots on our beautiful waterways. Bring your canoe, kayak, or favorite water craft and meet at the Fish River boat ramp to explore the banks of the river and bay picking up trash and re-

968-7720.

• **Gulf Shores Library Pre-school (3-5)**

Story Time: 10:30 a.m.; 251-968-1176.

• **Orange Beach Bridge Club:** Tue. & Thur at noon; Orange Beach Senior Center; visitors and new members welcomed even without a partner; 251-981-3440.

• **AA:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

• **AA:** 7 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

• **Firkin Tapping:** 6 p.m.; Big Brewing Company, Gulf Shores.

FRI, FEB 2

• **Flora-Bama Possible Probables:** 2 p.m. til; (Sched. on pages 32-33), Flora-Bama,

Perdido Key.

• **Flora-Bama Bingo:** 1-4 p.m.; Flora-Bama Lounge Tent Stage; Perdido Key.

• **Snowbird Listings:** Snowbird oriented events on pages 52 to 61.

• **First Friday Art Walk:** 6; Downtown Fairhope.

• **Light Travelers:** 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.

• **Crackerjack Diamonds:** 6:30; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.

• **Delta Donnie:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.

• **Wylie Pete:** 6; Margarita Locas at Pelican Place, Gulf Shores.

• **Danny Grady:** 3:30-5:30 p.m.; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.

• **Grayson Capps & Corky Hughes:** 7; The Flying Harpoon 2, Orange Beach.



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251-948-5227 | bbtb.com | 300 West Beach Blvd., Gulf Shores | Monday - Thursday — 11 am - 10 pm | Friday - Sunday — 9 am - 10 pm | Follow on Twitter, Facebook & Instagram

WHAT'S HAPPENING



- **Matt Bush:** 7; The Office; Foley.
- **Rat Pack & Motown w. James Proctor & Kathy Lyons:** 5; Franco's; Orange Beach.
- **Greg Lyon:** 7; Hub Stacy's at The Point, Pensacola.
- **Live Karaoke in the Tiki Bar:** 6; Live Bait, Orange Beach.
- **Dueling Pianos w/ Frankie G and Steve Wilkerson:** 6:30 p.m.; Big Beach Brewery in Gulf Shores.
- **John Lee Sanders:** 6; The Lobby Bar at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
- **Music Man & Company:** 7; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke w. John Henry:** 6:30; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- **DJ-Karaoke:** 9; The Jellyfish, Perdido Key.
- **Karaoke:** 8; Snapper's; Orange Beach.
- **Karaoke:** 10; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- **Terry Causey:** 6:30; Flippers, Orange Beach.
- **Open Mic Karaoke:** 5; American Legion Post 99; Fairhope.
- **Open Jam:** 8; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.

- **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis:** 7:30 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center; corner of West 19th Ave. and West 2nd St.
- **Bingo:** 5:30; Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5659; Elberta.
- **Foley Rotary Club:** 12:15 p.m.; Gift Horse Restaurant in Foley; foleyrotary@gulfnet.com.
- **AA:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
- **AA:** 7 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

- **Live Karaoke in the Tiki Bar:** 6; Live Bait, Orange Beach.
- **Jason Able Project:** 9; The Office; Foley.
- **Smokin' Budz:** 2-6 p.m.; The Flying Harpoon 2, Orange Beach.
- **Grayson Capps & Corky Hughes:** 7; The Flying Harpoon 2, Orange Beach.
- **Chris Bryant:** 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.
- **Rat Pack & Motown w. James Proctor & Kathy Lyons:** 5; Franco's; Orange Beach.
- **DJ-Karaoke:** 9; The Jellyfish, Perdido Key.
- **Whyte Capps:** 7; Hub Stacy's at The Point, Pensacola.
- **Matt Slowik:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **John Brust:** 6; Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
- **Sat. Nite Vibes w. Loaded Gunn, B2B, CXXNZY:** 9; The Club at Live Bait, Orange Beach.
- **Karaoke By Kelly:** 9; Island Time Daquari Bar, The Wharf, Orange Beach.
- **Karaoke:** 8; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.
- **Flip Flop Mafia:** 7; Flippers, Orange Beach.

SAT, FEB 3

- **Flora-Bama Annual Super Chili Bowl Cook Off:** noon 'til; Perdido Key.
- **Bob Gilary Memorial Bratfest:** 10 a.m.; Erie Meyer Civic Center, Gulf Shores.
- **Flora-Bama Possible Probables:** 2 p.m. 'til; (Sched. on pages 32-33), Flora-Bama, Perdido Key.
- **Snowbird Listings:** Snowbird oriented events on pages 52 to 61.
- **Roadside Glorius:** 6:30; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.

Orange Beach Police Dept. adds new officers to force

By Marc Anderson

Three new Orange Beach police officers were introduced at the Orange Beach City Council meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2018 and sworn in by Municipal Judge Julian "Buddy" Brackin. Police Chief Joe Fierro introduced Kenneth Hempfleng, Nicholas Gaskin and Dillen Malone.

Hempfleng, a veteran in law enforcement, will join the department as a part-time officer. Chief Fierro said Hempfleng was certified in 1987 by Alabama Peace Officers' Standards and Training Commission (APOST).

"He began in Prichard," Chief Fierro said, "and then in 1988 he joined the Daphne Police Department. He's currently a lieutenant over patrol and their support services and he should be retiring at some point in the not too distant future. But he'll join us as a part-time officer. I should also note that he graduated from the FBI National Academy in 2016. So he's a great addition to the police department. He has a lot of experience we'll be able to capitalize on."

Officer Gaskin hails from Gadsden and is currently a patrol sergeant with Rainbow City. "Prior to that he served in Etowah County," Chief Fierro said. "He's been an officer for over 11 years. He was APOST certified in 2004. Once again, a vast amount of experience is coming here to Orange Beach and a great addition to the police department."

Malone is a graduate of Spanish Fort High School, where he earn all-state honors as an outside linebacker in 2011, according to Chief Fierro. "He's attended both the Coastal Community College and Huntingdon (College) where he has received his bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice," Chief Fierro said. "He's also a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and is currently a reservist." Malone will be attending the APOST Academy in Selma, beginning on Jan. 22.

Pictured: Assistant Chief Steve Brown, Malone, Gaskin, Chief Fierro, Hempfleng and Judge Brackin.



Uniform Swap Event Feb. 3 at First Presbyterian Church of Gulf Shores

On Saturday, Feb. 3 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., Uniforms for Youth will hold a Uniform Swap Event at the First Presbyterian Church in Gulf Shores. Those in need of a uniform may come by and select from tops and bottoms of all sizes. Some are new, but most are pre-owned uniforms in great condition. If you have outgrown uniforms you wish to donate, those are welcome but not required to receive a uniform.

Those who do have uniforms to donate are encouraged to bring them by the church. Remember that uniforms are needed in many sizes, and consist of casual clothing that many people have in their closets. Khaki or navy blue slacks or skirts and white, navy or light blue shirts (with collars) and sweaters are acceptable. Winter coats of any description are permitted during this cold season. Please take a moment to rummage through your closet and drop off a donation. Financial contributions are also welcome.

Uniforms for Youth was created by Emilie Rattner, a Gulf Shores Middle School student who wants to be sure that all students have enough uniforms to wear to school. She and her mom, Dominique, launched the program last summer and clothed over 150 children in Baldwin County at the beginning of the school semester. In addition, this young grassroots effort provided nearly 300 articles of uniform clothing to the Aldine School District in Houston, Texas, to help those who had lost so much due to Hurricane Harvey, this past fall.

Feel free to stop by on the 3rd and learn more about this program. The church is located at 309 E. 21st Ave. For more info., call 251-597-2074 or visit uniformsforyouth.org.

Pictured: Emilie Rattner, founder of Uniforms for Youth.

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1 Main Room 1:00 Gove Scrivenor & J Hawkins 5:00 Not the Real Band 9:15 Brandon White Deck Stage 4:30 Dueling Pianos Top Deck 9:00 Tony Ray Thompson Tent 1:00-4:00 Bingo	2 Main Room 2:00 Lea Anne Creswell Duo 6:00 Rebecca Barry Duo 10:15 Johnny Barbato Trio Deck Stage 5:30 Big Earl (Jack Robertson) Show 10:00 Red Clay Strays Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo	3 Main Room 2:00 Sugarcane Jane 6:00 Al & Cathy 10:15 Smokey Otis Trio Deck Stage 1:00 J Hawkins Trio 5:30 Davis Nix Band 10:00 Lee Yankie & the Hellz Yeah Tent Stage Super Chili Bowl Cook Off 11:00 Hung Jury	4 Main Room 12:30 Songs of Rusty McHugh with Jason Justice 4:00 Perdido Brothers 8:30 Bruce Smelley Deck Stage 3:00 The Magic Johnsons Top Deck 7:00 Davis Nix Tent Stage 9:00 & 11:00 Church Services	5 Main Room 3:00 Open Mic with Cathy Pace 7:00 Petty & Pace Top Deck 7:00 Kevin Swanson Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo	6 Main Room 3:00 Rick Whaley Duo 7:00 Bruce Smelley Top Deck 7:00 Davis Nix Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo	7 Main Room 3:00 Neil Dover 7:00 Rhonda Hart Duo Top Deck 7:00 Mario Mena Tent Stage Welcome Wednesday 11:00 Don & Karen McNatt
8 Main Room 1:00 Gove Scrivenor 5:00 Not the Real Band 9:15 Johnny Barbato Duo Deck Stage 4:30 Dueling Pianos Top Deck 9:00 Brandon White Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo	9 Main Room 2:00 Lea Anne Creswell Duo 6:00 Smokey Otis Duo 10:15 Jo Jo Pres Deck Stage 5:30 Big Earl (Jack Robertson) Show 10:00 Mario Mena Band Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo	10 Main Room 2:00 J Hawkins Duo 6:00 Lee Yankie Trio 10:15 Bruce Smelley Duo Deck Stage 1:00 Al & Cathy 5:30 Big Earl (Jack Robertson) Show 10:00 Yeah, Probably	11 Main Room 12:30 Songs of Rusty McHugh with Jason Justice featuring J Hawkins 4:00 Perdido Brothers 8:30 Smokey Otis Duo Top Deck 7:00 Kevin Swanson Tent Stage 9:00 & 11:00 Church Services	12 Main Room 3:00 Open Mic with Cathy Pace 7:00 Petty & Pace Top Deck 7:00 Mario Mena Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo	13 Main Room 12:00 J Hawkins Trio 4:00 Perdido Brothers 8:30 Al & Cathy Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo Deck Stage 11:00 Johnny Barbato Trio 3:00 Rebecca Barry and Bust 7:30 Kyle Wilson Band	14 Main Room 3:00 Neil Dover 7:00 Rhonda Hart Duo Top Deck 7:00 Kyle Wilson Tent Stage Welcome Wednesday 11:00 Rick Whaley Duo

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

COOKIN' WITH CAROLYN

By CAROLYN GODFREY

Cube Steaks with Gravy

1/3 cup flour
6 beef cube steaks (4 oz. each)
1 Tbsp. oil
1 large onion, sliced and separated into rings
3 cups water, divided
1 envelope brown gravy mix
1 envelope mushroom gravy mix
1 envelope onion gravy mix
Hot mashed potatoes or cooked noodles

Place flour in a large resealable plastic bag. Add steaks, a few at a time, and shake until completely coated. In a skillet, cook steaks in oil until lightly browned on each side. Transfer to a 3-qt. slow cooker. Add the onion and 2 cups water. Cover and cook on low for 8 hours or until meat is tender. In a bowl, whisk together gravy mixes with remaining water. Add to slow cooker; cook 30 minutes longer. Serve over mashed potatoes or noodles. Yield: 6 servings.

Enjoy!



City Rhythm Big Band in Loxley Feb. 17

The City Rhythm Big Band has scheduled a dance on Saturday, Feb. 17 at the Loxley Civic Center from 7-10 p.m. Tickets are \$10 per person, and snacks will be available at the BYOB event.

The City Rhythm Big Band is an 18 piece big band that plays music from the big band era made famous by such artists as Count Basie, Woody Herman, Glen Miller, Duke Ellington and others. They also play some current favorites. Vocalists Kathy Murchison and Ken Thacker add their touch to the band with beautiful lyrics and awesome voices. Together, the band and vocalists present a wonderful evening of music. For all information, visit cityrhythmbb.com. The Loxley Civic Center is located at 4198 Municipal Park Dr. Dances are also scheduled on March 17, April 21 and May 12.



Gentlemen & Belles mentoring for kids offered in O.B. this Feb.

Beginning in February, the Orange Beach Recreation Center will offer Southern Gentlemen's & Southern Belle's Mentoring for young people, ages 10 to 13.

The course is free to all children in the Orange Beach community and will be led by Rec Center Manager Jonathan Langston and his wife, Jessica (pictured). Southern Gentlemen's mentoring will be held from 3:30 to 4 p.m. on Mondays and Southern Belle's mentoring will be held from 3:30 to 4 p.m. on Tuesdays.

"We want to focus on that critical age where young men and women begin the transition from childhood to adulthood," Jessica said.

The Gentlemen's lessons will include: A Gentleman's Dress Code and Tying Ties Handshaking, Eye Contact and Presence; Respectful Courtship; Letter Writing and Thank You Cards; Conversation and Appropriate Language; How to Treat a Lady; Grooming; Work Ethic Meal Preparation; Basic Mending.

The Belle's Lessons will include: Self Confidence and Poise; Attitude for Success Appropriate Dress and Accessorizing; Flower Arranging; Letter Writing, Invitations and Responses; Dining Etiquette and Place Settings; Acceptable Conversation Topics; Sewing and Mending; Hors d'oeuvres; Gift Wrapping

"There's no need to sign up just bring your child with an open mind and the willingness to learn," Jonathan said.

- **Open Jam:** 8; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
- **Karaoke:** 10; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- **Midnight Confessions:** 7:30; Nolan's, Gulf Shores.
- **Optimist Club of Perdido Bay:** Breakfast every Saturday at 7 a.m. at the Lillian Community Club in Lillian; (251) 961-2620.
- **AA:** 10 a.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
- **AA:** 7 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
- **Ladies AA:** 9 a.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

SUN, FEB 4

- **Flora-Bama Possible Probables:** 2 p.m. 'til; (Sched. on pages 32-33), Flora-Bama, Perdido Key.
- **Central Flora-Bama Church:** Church experiences, 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.; Flora-Bama Tent Stage, Perdido Key.

- **Unity Church Service:** 9:45 a.m.; The Royal Osyter, Hwy. 59, three blocks from beach in Gulf Shores.
- **Snowbird Listings:** Snowbird oriented events on pages 52 to 61.
- **Sassy Bass Anniversary Celebration w. Coconut Radio:** 3; Sassy Bass Amazin' Grill; Ft. Morgan.
- **Lauren Murphy:** 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.
- **Lee Yankie & Chris Bryant:** 3:30; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.
- **Smokin' Budz:** 4-8 p.m.; The Flying Harpoon, Gulf Shores.
- **Porch Ninjas:** 2-6 p.m.; The Flying Harpoon 2, Orange Beach.
- **Sunday 2-Person Scramble:** Every Sun. at 2 p.m.; Glenlakes Golf Club, Foley, (251) 955-1220.
- **Destiny Brown:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Turkey Shoot:** sign-up at 11 a.m.; Elberta VFW, Elberta.
- **Rat Pack & Motown w. James Proctor & Kathy Lyons:** 5; Franco's; Orange Beach.
- **Lisa Christian:** 2 p.m.; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.



Sirens View From The Top Condo Tour Feb. 24

The Sirens of the Sea Mardi Gras krewe will present its 10th Annual Condo Tour "A View from the Top" on Saturday, February 24 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. It is a fun filled day for both locals and visitors. Enjoy traveling along the Gulf Coast beach road and backwaters visiting the various waterfront views that Gulf Shores and Orange Beach have to offer from these elegant condos. Condos on tour are Bella Luna Penthouse, Phoenix West II, SeaChase and two Wharf Penthouses.

Tickets are \$20 and go on sale February 5 at the following locations: Wildflowers in Orange Beach on Canal Road, Coastal Flowers and Design in Gulf Shores on Hwy 59, Beach House Boutique in Gulf Shores at Pelican Place, Jubilee Apparel & Gifts in Gulf Shores at Pelican Place, and Bryant Bank in Orange Beach on Canal Road.

The Sirens of the Sea use the proceeds from this fundraiser to support their selected local charities including Gulf Shores High School Scholarship Fund, and CARE HOUSE (Baldwin County Child Advocacy Center), and their annual Mardi Gras activities. For more information, contact Melissa McClure, 502-494-2524 or Gilda Green, 985-290-1111.

Pictured: View from the Top Committee (left to right) Nancy Pickering, Condo Mama; Melissa McClure, Co-Chair; and Gilda Green, Co-Chair.

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Friday & Saturday 11am - 10pm
Sunday Brunch 10am - 3pm

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Tugboat Willy Lipe plays his final tune

Editor's Note: Cathe Steele is owner and founder of the renowned Frog Pond at Blue Moon Farm music venue in Silverhill. Willie Lipe, Tugboat Willie to most, also sold delicious hotdogs from a cart at the corner of Cty. Rd. 65/Cty. Rd. 10. He passed away on Jan. 5.

By Cathe Steele

The first time I ever saw Tugboat Willy Lipe was almost 30 years ago. He was throwing a kicking and screaming woman named Lillian into Roberts Bayou from off the bow of his schooner, The Shawnee.

I'd come down to Pirates Cove to go sailing with some friends that day, and little did I know, the next two years of my life would be the beginning of my musical roots, fertilized by Tugboat Willy Lipe, Jerry Trapp, Luther Wamble and a young Guthrie Trapp with a new guitar.

That first summer Willy baptized me in the songs of Guy Clark, Mickey Newbury, Robert Johnson, Jimmy Louis, Billy Stone, Hank Williams and so many more. I was immersed in the sight and sounds of Guthrie Trapp and Luther Wamble playing face to face, while watching Luther, Tugboat and Jerry become each a piece of the foundation of the guitar player that Guthrie would become.

There's so much to remember, too much to ever forget about Willy...The summer that he plotted a course for the very first Wooden Boat Show at Pirates Cove. The summer of a packed out deck during the day and moonlight sails all night. The sight of Willy headed to the boat yard in his colorful knitted hats, flip-flops and hawaiian shirts flapping in the wind, singing a new song along the way.

Willy could tell a story and make you see it clear as day, played out right in front of your minds eye. It was all about the song, about the sound, about the words and the story that came straight from Tugboats heart when he sang it.

Some of the very best memories of my life come from knowing Willy Lipe, and I will miss him 'til the very end of mine. Rest in Peace my friend. Fair winds and a safe voyage to the other side Tugboat.

'Til we meet again...

- **Music Man & Company:** 5; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- **John Joiner & Friends:** 4; Hub Stacey's at the Point; Innerarity Point.
- **John Lee Sanders:** 6; Voyagers Restaurant at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
- **Scott Koehn:** 5:30; Flippers, Orange Beach.
- **Open Mic Karaoke:** 6; American Legion Post 99, Foley.
- **9 Ball APA:** 6; The Office, Foley.
- **Blind Draw Dart Tournament:** 5; American Legion Post 99, Foley.
- **AA:** 5 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

MON, FEB 5

- **Snowbird Listings:** Snowbird oriented events on pages 52 to 61.
- **Flora-Bama Possible Probables:** 2 p.m. 'til; (Sched. on pages 32-33), Flora-Bama, Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Bingo:** free; 1-4 p.m.; great prizes, family friendly; 17401 Perdido Key Dr., Perdido Key.

- **Wacky Winter of Fun presents Beach Games, Game Show Edition:** 10 a.m.; Tacky Jacks Gulf Shores.
- **Jukebox Broadway starring the Diamonds:** 7; Erie Meyer Civic Center, Gulf Shores.
- **Mark Laborde & Smokey Otis:** 3 p.m.; The Intracoastal at TheWharf; Orange Beach.
- **Frankie G & LeaAnn Creswell:** 6:30; Franco's Italian Restaurant; Orange Beach.
- **Trivia Night at Big Beach:** 7; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Danny Grady:** 3:30-5:30 p.m.; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Brent Burns:** 5; LuLu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Alabama Lightning:** 6:30; Flippers, Orange Beach.
- **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis:** 7:30 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center; corner of West 19th Ave. and West 2nd St.
- **Bingo:** 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- **8 Ball APA:** 7:30; The Office, Foley.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Feb. 21 Salad Luncheon/Game Day tickets on sale O.B. Garden Club fundraiser usually sells out fast

The Orange Beach Garden Club will host its 31st Annual Garden Club Game Day and Salad Luncheon on Feb. 21 from 10 a.m. 'til 3 p.m. at The Event Center at The Wharf (4671 Wharf Pkwy.). Doors open at 9:30 a.m. Tickets are \$25 and are expected to sell out. Tickets are on sale now at The Emporium inside the Winn Dixie Shopping Center in Orange Beach. Call 251-979-5308 for more info.

The theme is "Celebrating Family, Freedom & Flowers" for this annual event that is renowned for its expansive buffet of member-made salads and deserts, and the fellowship of a fun day of table games with friends old and new. Many supporters attend just for lunch and the chance to win door and raffle prizes donated by generous local merchants.

This is the only Garden Club's only fundraising event, with all proceeds benefiting many community programs and organizations including Arbor Day, The Back Country Butterfly Garden, Orange Beach Memorial Cemetery Maintenance, The Orange Beach Community Garden, Christmas For Seniors & Families, The Orange Beach Wildlife Center, Light Up Orange Beach, The O.B. Library Butterfly Garden, Meals on Wheels gifts, the Orange Beach Elementary Junior Gardeners Program, and the OB Police Benevolent Fund.

Sonora Masonic Lodge serving fried chicken dinners on Feb. 3

Sonora Masonic Lodge #635 F&AM will hold its 2018 annual fried chicken dinner fundraisers on February 3 and March 3 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. The lodge is located at 202 E. Jackson Street in Summerdale. Adult plates will be \$9 and a child's plate will be \$5. The dinners will include chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, cole slaw, green beans and complimentary tea and dessert for dine-in guests. Proceeds generated from the fundraiser will be used for lodge expenditures. Delivery available on orders of 10 or more. For more information contact Dean Mott at 251-423-7604 or visit our lodge Facebook page.

Our Lady of the Gulf Lenten Friday fish-frys start on Feb. 16

The annual Lenten fish-frys at Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church (2304 E. 2nd St.) in Gulf Shores begin on Friday, Feb. 16 and continue on Feb. 23, March 2, March 9, March 16 and March 23. Hours are 5-7 p.m. and cost is \$10 for a meal that includes delicious fried fish, hushpuppies, baked beans, cole slaw, a dessert and a drink. Proceeds benefit Baldwin County Catholic schools and other local charities.

March 3 Night On The Wild Side will benefit Al. Gulf Coast Zoo

The Coastal Alabama Zoo Foundation will host A Night On The Wild Side, a benefit to help the zoo move to a new location on land it owns on the northside of the IntraCoastal Waterway, on March 3 from 6:30 - 10 p.m. in the Salt Air Aviation Hanger At Jack Edwards Airport (3190 Airport Dr.) in Gulf Shores.

Enjoy a night on the wild side and help the zoo take flight to its new location. Tickets are \$150 per person, \$250 per couple or \$5000 to sponsor a table of 8. Limited to patrons over 21, the evening includes hors d'oeuvres, beer & wine, photos with animals and dancing to motown hits from Chevy 6. Dress is safari / jungle. The Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. For info or tickets, visit alabamagulfcoastzoo.com.

- **Overeaters Anonymous:** 6; Holy Spirit Episcopal Church; Gulf Shores, 616 Ft. Morgan Rd.; 251-709-5907.
- **Orange Beach Community Center Association Monthly Covered Dish Dinner:** social at 5, dinner at 6:30 p.m.; all winter guests welcome; Canal Road next to the Recreation Center; 251-981-1942.
- **T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly):** weigh-in 5:30; meeting 6; First Presbyterian Church of Foley; (Berry & Highway 59).
- **AA:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
- **AA:** 7 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
- **Ladies AA:** 10 a.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

TUE, FEB 6

- **LuLu's 6th Annual Birds of Paradise Mardi Gras Ball:** 7 p.m.; LuLu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Flora-Bama Possible Probables:** 2 p.m. 'til; (Sched. on pages 32-33), Flora-Bama, Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Bingo:** 1-4 p.m.; Flora-Bama Lounge Tent Stage; Perdido Key.
- **Snowbird Listings:** Snowbird oriented events on pages 52 to 61.
- **Jukebox Broadway starring the Diamonds:** 7; Erie Meyer Civic Center, Gulf Shores.
- **Frankie G On Piano:** 6:30; Franco's Italian Restaurant; Orange Beach.
- **Lisa Zanghi, Doug Habbena, Scott Koehn:** 6:30; Flippers, Orange Beach.
- **Karaoke:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
- **Brent Burns:** 3 p.m.; The Intracoastal at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 8; Pappa

Rocco's; Gulf Shores.

- **JW Karaoke:** 6; Hub Stacy's At The Point, Innerarity Point.
- **NAPA Pool League:** 7:30; The Office, Foley.
- **Karaoke:** 5; Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5659; Elberta.
- **Bowling Tourney:** 7; Snapper's; Orange Beach.
- **Orange Beach City Council Meeting:** 5 p.m.; City Hall; 980-INFO.
- **Bingo:** 10 to 2; Gulf Coast Elks Lodge 2782, Foley; 251-971-2782.
- **GriefShare Support Group:** For men and women; 6-8 p.m.; Point Church, 13801 Innerarity Point Rd. Info: Shirley Johnson, 601-278-6973.
- **Orange Beach Bridge Club:** Tue. & Thur at noon; Orange Beach Senior Center; visitors and new members welcomed even without a partner; 251-981-3440.
- **Orange Beach Library Children's Story Time:** 10 a.m.; preschool; 981-2923.
- **Southwest Branch Library Children's Story Time:** 10:30 a.m.; preschool; 12248 Gulf Beach Hwy, Pensacola; (850) 453-7780.
- **Gulf Shores Kiwanis Club:** Palmer Dining Room at Craft Farms; noon; new members and guests always welcome; 251-981-9999.
- **Kiwanis Club of Big Lagoon:** 7:30 a.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Activities Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Road, Pensacola, info: Sarah De Lazzar, 262-749-4241.
- **Kiwanis Club of Foley:** Noon on Tuesdays at Ryan's in Foley; 251-968-6288.
- **AA:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
- **AA:** 7 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
- **Al-Anon:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Ac-



Grayson Capps & Corky Hughes at 'Poon-2 Feb. 2-3

Arguably Baldwin County's (Fairhope High) best homegrown songwriter and showman, Grayson Capps (above) plays every song of every set with fervor and passion, with respect for the song and the audience. That is impressive, if only because he has now been at it for three decades. It's a beautiful thing, especially when you can get caught up in the magic right here on Pleasure Island. Grayson will play two extended sets on Feb. 2-3 at Nancy Davis Farina's place, The Flying Harpoon 2 in Orange Beach (23479 Perdido Beach Blvd.), beginning around 7 p.m. each night. He will be accompanied by guitar wiz and Mobile native Corky Hughes.



Public can learn to create fairly garden on Feb. 13

By Mary Ann Lindsay

The doldrums of January have not diminished the enthusiasm of the members of the Robertsdale Garden Club. Even though the weather is not conducive to planting and growing, it is not too early to plan a fairy garden. Although there is a multitude of web sites to assist in creating a fairy garden, the Robertsdale Garden Club is pleased to have a speaker at its February meeting to educate us on the subject. Bonnibel Byars, a Baldwin County Master Gardener, will present a Power Point presentation and demonstration on fairy gardens. A fairy garden can be large or in miniature which is good news for those with limited space to garden. This activity can introduce youngsters to the joy of gardening with an added flair of whimsy and fun. Guests are invited to attend this meeting which takes place on Tuesday, February 13, at the G P. Thames Adult Activity Center, at 10:00 a.m. The address for the Center is 22651 E. Chicago St., Robertsdale, AL, 36567. Join us for education, fun, and fellowship.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING



BIG EARL'S 1/2K RELAY: Flora-Bama entertainer Jack "Big Earl" Robertson hosted the first Annual Big Earl's 1/2K Relay on the Flora-Bama Beach. The fundraiser featured bloody mary, mimosas and donuts as pre-race fuel and awards for first place, last place, best costume, best baton and best team name.



Folk duo Hungrytown plays free Feb. 6 at Foley Library

The Foley Public Library is most fortunate to have folk musicians, Rebecca Hall and Ken Anderson - otherwise known as the folk duo Hungrytown - back for a free concert on Tuesday, February 6 at 6 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room.

Seating is limited so reservations are required. Please call 251-943-7665 to place a reservation or check the library's website at foleylibrary.org for further information.

Hall and Anderson have been travelling the world over the past two years performing in North America, Europe, and New Zealand. Their music has received extensive radio airplay worldwide and has appeared on several television shows, including the Independent Film Channel's hit series, Portlandia.

Randy Albright will perform Feb. 18 at St. Thomas By Sea

A Musical Celebration of Life will feature singer-songwriter Randy Albright at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18 at St. Thomas by-the-Sea Catholic Church, Orange Beach. Light refreshments will be served after the performance. Proceeds will benefit Good Counsel Mary's Shelter Gulf Coast, a home for homeless pregnant women who choose life for their unborn child.

Tickets are \$15 and must be purchased in advance. They are available at St. Thomas by the Sea and The Island Church in Orange Beach; Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church, Gulf Shores; St. Margaret Catholic Church, Foley, or by calling Jeanne Franz, 251-968-5268 or franz4323@ya.hoo.com.

activities Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

WED, FEB 7

- **Flora-Bama Possible Probables:** 2 p.m. 'til; (Sched. on pages 32-33), Flora-Bama, Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Bingo:** free; 1-4 p.m.; great prizes, family friendly; 17401 Perdido Key Dr., Perdido Key.
- **Snowbird Listings:** Snowbird oriented events on pages 52 to 61.
- **Karaoke:** 10; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- **Danny Grady:** 3:30-5:30 p.m.; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Steve Wilkerson:** 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.
- **Shelby Brown:** 3 p.m.; The Intracoastal at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Shaggy J & The Coastal Vibrations:** 6; The Purple Parrot; Perdido Key.
- **Frankie G. On Piano:** 6:30; Franco's Italian Restaurant; Orange Beach.
- **Snowbird Dinner Dance w. Ron, Burt & Marvin:** 6-9 p.m.; The Cove Restaurant & Grill; Gulf Shores.
- **Barstool Surfers:** 2; Sassy Bass Amazon Grill; Ft. Morgan.
- **John Lee Sanders:** 2; Voyagers Restaurant at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
- **John Brust:** 6; The Lobby Bar at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
- **John Joiner & Friends:** 7; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Open Mic:** 5:30; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke:** 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke:** 9; The Office, Foley.
- **Scott Koehn & Lisa Zanghi:** 6:30; Flipper's, Orange Beach.
- **Big Beach Running & Social Club:** 5:30 p.m.; Big Beach Brewery in Gulf Shores; lafleetfeet.com.
- **Family Night Dinner & Activities:** 5:45 p.m.; Saint Andrew by the Sea, 17263 Fort Morgan Rd., Gulf Shores; 678-361-2762.
- **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis:** 7:30 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center; corner of West 19th Ave. and West 2nd St.
- **Veteran's Bingo:** 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; American Legion Post 99, Foley.
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Activities Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
- **Food Ministry For Hungry Families:** noon-1 p.m.; Grace Lutheran Church, corner of West 23rd Ave. and West 4th St. in Gulf Shores; 251-968-5991.

- **Bread Ministry:** 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Orange Beach United Methodist Church Brook's Center.
- **Food Bank:** 9 - 11 a.m every Wednesday, Perdido Bay Baptist Church, 12600 Sorrento Rd. Pensacola; call for eligibility requirements at (850) 492-2604.
- **Perdido Key Rotary Club:** 7:30 a.m.; every Wednesday at Triggers. 850.492.8335.
- **Storytime at Pensacola Southwest Branch Library:** free; infant to 5; 10:30-11; 1-2238 Old Gulf Beach Hwy; (850)453-7780.
- **Gulf Shores Garden Club:** 9:30 a.m.; first Wednesday of each month September thru May; Gulf Shores Activity Center; 300 E. 16th Avenue, Gulf Shores; new members and guests always welcome; 251-968-5683.
- **AA:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
- **AA:** 7:30 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.\

THU, FEB 8

- **Alabama Lifestyles EXPO:** 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.; Caribe Resort; 28103 Perdido Beach Blvd.; Orange Beach, (800) 235-4757.
- **Flora-Bama Possible Probables:** 2 p.m. 'til; (Sched. on pages 32-33), Flora-Bama, Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Bingo:** free; 1-4 p.m.; great prizes, family friendly; 17401 Perdido Key Dr., Perdido Key.
- **Snowbird Listings:** Snowbird oriented events on pages 52 to 61.
- **Open Mic:** 7; Snapper's; Orange Beach.
- **LeAnn Creswell & Lisa Zanghi:** 6:30; Franco's Italian Restaurant; Orange Beach.
- **Karaoke:** 10; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- **Lefty Collins:** 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.
- **Raising Karma:** 7; Hub Stacy's at The Point, Pensacola.
- **Alabama Lightning:** 6:30; Flippers, Orange Beach.
- **Ole River String Band:** 6:30; Original



24 GSMS art students accepted for Celebrating Art book

Congratulations to the 24 Gulf Shores Middle School art students who were accepted to be published in the Fall 2017 edition of the book Celebrating Art. Celebrating Art is a National art contest and only the best artwork out of thousands of entries is chosen for publication. Students included: Scout Hall, Calista Sweet, Madison Rosado, Althea Lehman, Katie Jackson, Violet Adams, Mackenzie Morrison, Jaquelin Montes, Molly Sims, Emily West, Anya Simpson, Fernanda Larenas, Brailyn Gillis, Abrianna Maden, Jerhyn York, Sophie Carlson, Taylor Gates, Mattox Johnson, Phillip Chung, Nevaeh Williams, Gabriella Lisboa, Isabella Smith, Taylor Roberts, Johanna Avila. Not pictured: Isabella Smith, Brailyn Gillis, Taylor Gates and Anya Simpson.

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Mashed Potatoes
and Vegetable**
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WHAT'S HAPPENING



Wonder Women's Wellness Workshop Feb. 17 in O.B.

How would you like to find a way to feel better that's drug-free, pain-free, and actually can make a difference?

The Wonder Women's Wellness Workshop is being offered by Rio Cordy and Darcy Toth (pictured) at the Hotel Indigo, Orange Beach on February 17.

The event will offer a variety of classes, including Stress Reduction,

"We want to share what we've taken a lifetime to learn with others."

Creative Movement for right and left brain, Life

Coaching, and introduction to Reiki and Tai Chi. This workshop is a great way for you to meet new people that are like-minded. You will have fun and gain new skills to improve your lifestyle.

"We've been working as a wellness team for a few years. Together we bring a lot to the table because of our vastly different backgrounds. Last year we traveled to Miami for a coaching seminar held on South Beach," said Barlow, a Miami native.

"It lifted us to find more ways to improve our daily lives. We want to share what we've taken a lifetime to learn with others."

Barlow and Toth, who is from Michigan, have very diversified background experiences.

Rio danced ballet professionally around the world and is the founder and owner of the Coastal Ballet Academy in Foley. She is also an experienced Massage Therapist and Tai Chi instructor.

Darcy is a Certified Health Coach. Her background includes 34 years teaching women to build in-home businesses. She also has an education background in speech and language pathology. Darcy and Rio are both Reiki Master/Teachers.

For more info, visit Facebook at Coaching For A Change, or Call Rio Barlow at (251) 979-9851.

Point Restaurant, Pensacola.

• **John Lee Sanders:** 6; Voyagers Restaurant at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.

• **John Brust:** 6; The Lobby Bar at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.

• **Rick Whaley & Tommy Mazullo:** 6; The Purple Parrot; Perdido Key.

• **Karaoke:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.

• **Karaoke:** 8; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.

• **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 7; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.

• **Arts at the Market:** 4-8 p.m.; Coastal Alabama Farmer's & Fishermen's Market, Foley, 2nd Thurs. of each month; great artists & crafters from our area; Info: (251) 229-9885.

• **8 Ball APA:** 7:30; The Office, Foley.

• **Bingo:** 10 a.m.; American Legion Post 44, 6781 Gulf Shores Pkwy (AL Hwy 59), Gulf Shores.

• **Rotary Club of Gulf Shores/Orange Beach:** noon; Gulf Shores Golf Club; visiting Rotarians and guests invited.

• **Gulf Shores United Methodist Church Bread Ministry:** 9-10; every Thursday; room 103 on the south campus, next to Crossroad; 251 968-2411.

• **Adult Bible Study:** 10 a.m.; Gulf Shores Presbyterian Church; all welcome; (251) 968-7720.

• **Orange Beach Bridge Club:** Tue. & Thur at noon; Orange Beach Senior Center; visitors and new members welcomed even without a partner; 251-981-3440.

• **Gulf Shores Library Pre-school (3-5) Story Time:** 10:30 a.m.; 251-968-1176.

• **AA:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

FRI, FEB 9

• **Mystical Order of Mirams Parade:** 6:30; Orange Beach.

• **Flora-Bama Possible Probables:** 2 p.m. 'til; (Sched. on pages 32-33), Flora-Bama, Perdido Key.

• **Flora-Bama Bingo:** free; 1-4 p.m.; great prizes, family friendly; 17401 Perdido Key Dr., Perdido Key.

• **Snowbird Listings:** Snowbird oriented events on pages 52 to 61.

• **Danny Grady:** 3:30-5:30 p.m.; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.

• **Christina Christian:** 6:30; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.

• **Rex 7:** The Office; Foley.

• **Rat Pack & Motown w. James Proctor & Kathy Lyons:** 5; Franco's; Orange Beach.

• **Strickly Isbell:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.

• **Light Travelers:** 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.

• **Crosstown:** 7; Hub Stacy's at The Point, Pensacola.

• **John Lee Sanders:** 6; The Lobby Bar at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.

• **Midnight Confessions:** 7:30; Nolan's, Gulf Shores.

• **DJ-Karaoke:** 9; The Jellyfish, Perdido Key.

• **Open Jam:** 8; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.

• **Open Mic Karaoke:** 5; American Legion Post 99; Fairhope.

• **Karaoke:** 10; The Undertow; Orange Beach.

• **Karaoke:** 8; Snapper's; Orange Beach.

• **Terry Causey:** 7; Flippers, Orange Beach.

• **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis:** 7:30 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center; corner of West 19th Ave. and West 2nd St.

• **Bingo:** 5:30; Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5659; Elberta.

• **Foley Rotary Club:** 12:15 p.m.; Gift Horse Restaurant in Foley; foleyrotary@gulfnet.com.

• **AA:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

• **AA:** 7 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

SAT, FEB 10

• **Mystics of Pleasure Mardi Gras Parade:** 6; Orange Beach.

• **Flora-Bama Possible Probables:** 2 p.m. 'til; (Sched. on pages 32-33), Flora-Bama, Perdido Key.

• **Snowbird Listings:** Snowbird oriented events on pages 52 to 61.

• **Gulf Coast Art Alliance Art Market:** 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.; First Presbyterian Church., Gulf Shores.

• **City Rhythm Big Band:** 7 p.m.; Loxley Civic Center.

• **Travis Posey:** 6:30; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.

• **Phil & Foster:** 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.

• **Thunder Bunny:** 2-6 p.m.; The Flying Harpoon 2, Orange Beach.

• **Rat Pack & Motown w. James Proctor & Kathy Lyons:** 5; Franco's; Orange Beach.

• **John Henry Karaoke:** 9; The Office; Foley.

• **Kristi Dees:** 7; Hub Stacy's at The Point, Pensacola.

• **Delta Donnie:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.

• **Live Karaoke in the Tiki Bar:** 6; Live Bait, Orange Beach.

• **Sat. Nite Vibes w. Loaded Gunn, B2B, CXXNZY:** 9; The Club at Live Bait, Orange Beach.

• **Lisa Zanghi:** 6; Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.

• **Karaoke By Kelly:** 9; Island Time

Daquari Bar, The Wharf, Orange Beach.

• **Flip Flop Mafia:** 7; Flippers, Orange Beach.

• **Karaoke:** 8; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.

• **Karaoke:** 10; The Undertow; Orange Beach.

• **Open Jam:** 8; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.

• **Baldwin County Genealogical Society:** 10 a.m.; public invited; Foley Library; 319 East Laurel Ave.

• **Optimist Club of Perdido Bay:** breakfast every Saturday at 7 a.m. at the Lillian Community Club in Lillian; (251) 961-2620.

• **AA:** 10 a.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

• **AA:** 7 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

• **Ladies AA:** 9 a.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Activities Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

• **White Elephant Sale** at Luxury RV Resort. RV items incl. Brake Buddy, electric fireplace, household, tools, electronics, books. Bake Sale. 8am-1pm. 590 Gulf Shores Pkwy.

SUN, FEB 11

• **Central Flora-Bama Church:** Church experiences, 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.; Flora-

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

ON THE WILD SIDE...

W. THE ORANGE BEACH WILDLIFE CENTER STAFF

Coyotes play vital role in keeping rodent populations down

By Melissa Vinson

Often, you will hear a nocturnal animal howling in the night, to announce its presence and to deter other males. This is also an invitation to any nearby females to join him. This species is an opportunistic hunter and preys mostly on small mammals such as rabbits, squirrels, and rats. They also have the ability to form a pack, to take down larger prey such as deer. They are assumed to be meat eaters by most, but they have actually been observed eating grass, fruit, and other vegetation as well, making them omnivores. Their eyesight, hearing, and sense of smell are highly developed and, coupled with their resourceful diet, allows them to be an extremely adaptable species. What is this Alabama apex predator I am referring to? Coyotes!

They play a vital role in our environment, controlling the rodent and small mammal populations. Diseases carried and transmitted by rodents are minimized when rodent populations are regulated. As one of nature's scavengers, they also aid in keeping the community they inhabit free of decaying animals, as roadkill is a coyote favorite. However they have also become known as one of the biggest nuisance species in the US - and right here on the Island. In 2017, there were two incidents involving small dogs in Orange Beach: one dog was presumed deceased and the other dog survived the attack. Over the years we have seen several of these unfortunate incidents, but they almost always share some common characteristics. Small pets are allowed to go outside, after dark, often unattended, off leash and in an unfenced yard. Coyotes are discreet and quick (reaching top speeds of 40 mph), making them the perfect ambush predator when so inclined. Not all coyotes prey on pets. In fact, the vast majority go about their business never causing us a problem.



As a part of the fortunate few who can call this beautiful area home, we need to remember we aren't the only residents. The coyotes, along with many other beautiful species of animals, live here as well, making this a shared environment. In nearly all instances of human/wildlife conflict people are at fault or at least responsible for the behavior that leads to conflict. Avoiding some simple mistakes and changing our daily bad habits will resolve most problems. Some basic but vitally important tactics are: not allowing pet food to remain outdoors, securing your trashcans, walking your dog on a leash (especially at night), motion-sensor lights and sprinklers, and making an uncomfortable environment in general for the coyote otherwise known as negative reinforcement. You can make loud noises, wave your arms, and act like a crazy person, and you will likely scare off most coyotes, but you might concern your neighbors as well!

Occasionally, even when all the correct measures are taken, you still have an animal that continually approaches your house, pets, and your comfort space. There are such circumstances in our area, most recently on Ono Island, in which this is the case. This is why the limited trapping and removal of certain individual animals that have lost their fear of humans or appear to be diseased has started. It is about the safety of the residents and their pets as well as the health of the coyote population. Coyotes suffer from several common diseases and ailments including mange which in advanced stages leaves the animal looking like the mythical "chupacabra"!

The Orange Beach nuisance control program is done in conjunction with the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) division. Efforts are typically spread out instead of concentrated in one location because coyotes form family groups, and when a few are removed from one family group, it can affect the entire community of animals. Coyotes have a physiological reaction that is triggered when they feel their population is threatened, and it has helped their populations remain resilient across the country: when they feel vulnerable, they have the ability to reproduce at an earlier stage and birth more pups at a time, increasing their litter size and survival rate, making it almost impossible to eradicate them all together.

If you encounter a coyote that appears to have lost their fear of humans or appears diseased, please call Orange Beach Dispatch at 251-981-9777 if you are within the city limits of Orange Beach. If outside of city limits, please call 844-303-WILD (844-303-9453). Please remember that simply seeing a coyote is not always a cause for concern.

We are privileged to have such diverse wildlife living in our own backyard. The most valuable thing we can do is learn to coexist. It is their home as much as ours and it is important to keep that balance within the ecosystem we call home.

"See our article about coyotes in the Summer 2017 edition of Alabama Wildlife Magazine"



Ron Nessler retirement gig Feb. 7 at The Cove in G.S.

Ron Nessler (pictured), a veteran musician who has been wintering in the Gulf Shores and Orange Beach area for the last 26 years, will play his retirement gig at The Cove Bar & Grill (131 Cove Ave.) in Gulf Shores on Feb. 7 from 6-9 p.m.

The veteran drummer, who will be 85 in February, will be joined on stage by Burt Kimbel and Marvin Holtman.

Over the years, Ron has played at local bistros past and present, including The Pass, Adolph's, Zeke's Landing, The Louisiana Pantry, Paradise Cove, The Hangout and Live Baits' I and 11.

Ron has also played extensively at The Cove's sister restaurant, Cottons in Orange Beach.

Many of his snowbird friends remember the dances he organized at the Orange Beach Senior Center in years past.

Ron said he is proud to have worked with many great local musicians in addition to Kimbel, Holtman and Tom Cherry from the Boots Randolph Band. That list includes Oscar Carr, Scott Langhoff, Jim Andrews and John Brust.

"I want to thank all my friends and musicians who have supported me all these years," Ron said.

A lifelong musician, Ron played professionally as drummer and vocalist in the Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky areas before he started wintering here.

- **Bama Tent Stage, Perdido Key.**
- **Unity Church Beach Service:** 9:45 a.m.; The Royal Oyster, Hwy. 59 - 3 blocks from beach in Gulf Shores.
- **Flora-Bama Possible Probables:** 2 p.m. 'til; (Sched. on pages 32-33), Flora-Bama, Perdido Key.
- **Customer Appreciation Night:** 4-6 p.m.; 2nd Sunday each month; first drink free, free food while it lasts, 25% off in the gift shop, live music; Flora-Bama, Perdido Key.
- **Snowbird Listings:** Snowbird oriented events on pages 52 to 61.
- **Couples Sunday 2-Person Scramble:** Every Sun. at 2 p.m.; Glenlakes Golf Club, Foley, (251) 955-1220.
- **Cadillac Attack:** 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.
- **Porch Ninjas:** 3 p.m.; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.
- **The Defrosters:** 4 p.m.; The Flying Harpoon, Gulf Shores.
- **Coconut Radio:** 4; Sassy Bass Amazin' Grill; Ft. Morgan.
- **Lisa Christian:** 2 p.m.; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.

- **Rat Pack & Motown w. James Proctor & Kathy Lyons:** 5; Franco's; Orange Beach.
- **Scott Koehn:** 5:30; Flippers, Orange Beach.
- **John Lee Sanders:** 6; Voyagers Restaurant at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
- **Southern Star:** 5; Monthly Birthday Potluck; American Legion Post 99, Foley.
- **Destiny Brown:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **John Joiner & Friends:** 4; Hub Stacey's at the Point; Innerarity Point.
- **Blind Draw Dart Tournament:** 5; American Legion Post 99, Foley.
- **9 Ball APA:** 6; The Office, Foley.
- **AA:** 5 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

MON, FEB 12

- **Wacky Winter of Fun presents Art al Fresco Mardi Gras Bead Mosaic:** 10 a.m.; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
- **Flora-Bama Possible Probables:** 2 p.m. 'til; (Sched. on pages 32-33), Flora-Bama, Perdido Key.

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Flounder fried or broiled: \$9.99

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Tuesday: BBQ Meatloaf 2 sides

Wednesday: Chicken & Dumplings 2 Sides

Thursday: Beef Tips over White rice 2 Sides

Friday: Chef's Special

WHAT'S HAPPENING

26th AL Lifestyles Expo Feb. 8 at Caribe Resort

The 26th Annual Alabama Lifestyles EXPO is scheduled on Thursday, Feb. 8 at Caribe The Resort in Orange Beach. Hours are from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. A free public event, the Expo attracts Snowbird visitors and locals who wish to learn more about what Alabama has to offer in a spacious and beautiful setting. The expo offers covered onsite parking and easy access drop off points at three expo entrances. In addition to door prizes and numerous giveaways, \$100 will be awarded at 2 p.m., and you need not be present to win.

Exhibitors represent companies that provide products and services that make trips to the Gulf Coast more enjoyable. The EXPO is most popular with Snowbirds, but it offers something of interest for all ages.

The emphasis is on the great amenities available in Alabama and the Gulf Coast. The EXPO is popular with seniors, but it offers something of interest for all ages as well as free professional services, free consultations, free tickets, free food samples, giveaways and games of chance.

More than 70 exhibitors will provide information about community living and quality of life programs for people over 50. Expect hands-on-exhibits and lots of ideas about things to do and see locally and places to visit throughout Alabama.

As an added value for the vendors, exhibitors can market their website through Alabama Snowbird and Alabama Advantage free for the next 10 months. To register or for more exhibitor or expo info, call event coordinator Bill Meadows at 205-222-2862, visit AlabamaAdvantage.com or email info@AlabamaAdvantage.com.

Pictured: Revs.Jim and Donna Mullis of Pleasure Island Unity



Blue Angels first home practices scheduled March 20-21

The U.S. Navy Blue Angels are in the middle of an intense 10 week training camp at their winter home at Naval Air Facility El Centro in California. The team has been at the base, located 87 miles east of San Diego, since January 3. They are flying several twice daily to perfect their amazing routines and will return to Pensacola home base in early March. This is the 51st year the team will use El Centro as their winter training base. The Blue Angels' 72nd show season starts on March 10 at NAF El Centro and ends with the traditional November 2-3 Blue Angels Homecoming Airshow at Pensacola NAS. The first open Blue Angels practices at NAS Pensacola are scheduled March 20-21. The team will sign autographs and visit with fans after each of those practices. Note: Practices can be cancelled with little or no notice due to circumstances outside our control.

Pictured: Blues at 2017 Homecoming show (Cathy Deal picture).

- **Flora-Bama Bingo:** free; 1-4 p.m.; great prizes, family friendly; 17401 Perdido Key Dr., Perdido Key.
- **Snowbird Listings:** Snowbird oriented events on pages 52 to 61.
- **Danny Grady:** 3:30-5:30 p.m.; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Brent Burns:** 5; Lulu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.
- **Frankie G. & Leann Creswell:** 6:30; Franco's Italian Restaurant; Orange Beach.
- **Trivia Night at Big Beach:** 7; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 7; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Mark Laborde & Smokey Otis:** 3 p.m.; The Intracoastal at TheWharf; Orange Beach.
- **Bingo:** 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis:** 7:30 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center; corner of West 19th Ave. and West 2nd St.
- **8 Ball League:** 7:30; The Office, Foley.
- **Celebrate Recovery:** (Christ centered 12 step program); Monday evenings at 6 p.m.; Christian Life Church in Orange Beach; 251-967-4840.
- **Overeaters Anonymous:** 6; Holy Spirit Episcopal Church; Gulf Shores, 616 Ft. Morgan Rd.; 251-709-5907.
- **T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly):** weigh-in 5:30; meeting 6; First Presbyterian Church of Foley; (Berry & Highway 59).
- **AA:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
- **Ladies AA:** 10 a.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

- **Gulf Shores Mardi Gras Parade:** 10 a.m.; Orange Beach.
- **Lulu's Fat Tuesday & Anniversary Celebration:** live music, birthday cake; 11 a.m.; Gulf Shores.
- **Orange Beach Mardi Gras Parade:** 2 p.m.; Orange Beach.
- **Fat Tuesday Boat Parade:** 3 p.m.; The Wharf to Lulu's at Homeport Marina.
- **Flora-Bama Possible Probables:** 3 p.m. 'til; (Sched. on pages 32-33), Flora-Bama, Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Bingo:** free; 1-4 p.m.; great prizes, family friendly; 17401 Perdido Key Dr., Perdido Key.
- **Snowbird Listings:** Snowbird oriented events on pages 52 to 61.
- **The Defrosters Fat Tuesday Party:** 2; The Flying Harpoon 2, Orange Beach.
- **Albert Simpson:** 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Brent Burns:** 3 p.m.; The Intracoastal at TheWharf; Orange Beach.
- **Buzz Kiefer:** 6; The Purple Parrot, Perdido Key.
- **Crackerjack Ninjas:** 1-4 p.m.; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.
- **Frankie G. On Piano:** 6:30; Franco's Italian Restaurant; Orange Beach.
- **John Lee Sanders:** 6; The Lobby Bar at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
- **Karaoke w. John Henry:** 5:30; American Legion Post 99, Foley.
- **Lisa Zanghi, Doug Habbena, Scott Koehn:** 7; Flippers, Orange Beach.
- **Bowling Tourney:** 7; Snapper's; Orange Beach.
- **JW Karaoke:** 6; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- **Karaoke:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
- **GriefShare Support Group:** For men and women; 6-8 p.m.; Point Church, 13801 Innerarity Point Rd. Info: Shirley Johnson, 601-278-6973.
- **NAPA Pool League:** 7:30; The Office,

Foley.

- **Bingo:** 10 to 2; Gulf Coast Elks Lodge 2782, Foley; 251-971-2782.
- **Orange Beach City Council Meeting:** 5 p.m.; City Hall; 980-INFO.
- **Sonora Masonic Lodge:** 7 p.m.; 202 E. Jackson Street in Summerdale; sonora635.com.
- **Orange Beach Bridge Club:** Tue. & Thur at noon; Orange Beach Senior Center; visitors and new members welcomed even without a partner; 251-981-3440.
- **Orange Beach Library Children's Story Time:** 10 a.m.; preschool; 981-2923.
- **Southwest Branch Library Children's Story Time:** 10:30 a.m.; preschool; 12248 Gulf Beach Hwy, Pensacola; (850) 453-7780.
- **Gulf Shores Kiwanis Club:** Palmer Dining Room at Craft Farms; noon; new members and guests always welcome; 251-981-9999.
- **Kiwanis Club of Foley:** Noon on Tuesdays at Ryan's in Foley; 251-968-6288.
- **AA:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
- **Al-Anon:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Activities Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

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FIRKIN TAPPING & FRESH MUSIC II.....2/1: 6-9pm
BEER RELEASE.....Mystic Goat Helles Bock, 2/1: 6pm
BLUE WATER BBQ CATERING.....2/2: 6:30-9:30pm
LIVE MUSIC.....Crackerjack Diamonds, 2/2: 1-4pm
LIVE MUSIC.....Roadside Glorious, 2/3: 6:30-9:30pm
TRIVIA NIGHT @ BIG BEACH.....2/5 & 2/12: 7pm
BLEUS BURGER CATERING.....2/9: 6-9pm
LIVE MUSIC.....Christina Christian, 2/9: 6:30-9:30pm
LIVE MUSIC.....Travis Posey, 2/10: 6:30-9:30pm
LIVE MUSIC.....Poarch Ninjas, 2/11: 3-6pm
LIVE MUSIC.....Crackerjack Diamonds, 2/13: 1-4pm
FAT TUESDAY AT BIG BEACH BREWING.....2/13: Opening at 10am
VALENTINE'S DAY BEER & CHOCOLATE PAIRING.....2/14: 4-10pm

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WHAT'S HAPPENING



ELBERTA HIGH SCHOOL SPELLING BEE: Winners crowned during the recent Elberta High School Spelling bee included (l to r) Noah Atwood (7th grader, 2nd place winner), Branton Bailey (EHS Principal), Brady Motes (8th grader, 1st place winner), Katy Padgett (EHS Assistant Principal). The winner will represent the school at the Baldwin County level on Feb. 8.



GSHS VISUAL ARTS STUDENTS ARE DISTRICT WINNERS: The following Gulf Shores High School Visual Arts students were selected as district winners and will compete in the annual State Superintendent Art show. Only 9 pieces were selected from all of the high school and middle school entries and of those nine entries, four Dolphins were selected! Two of the four entries will also compete in the Alabama Bi-Centennial Art Contest! **Pictured:** Ansley Jordan – 9th Grade – “Schwinn” (pencil on bristol); Hannah Guthrie – 11th Grade – “Sprouse” (pencil on bristol); Luna Ledlow – 12th Grade – “Grandpa” (photography) Bi-Centennial Entry; Delaney Russ – 12th Grade – “Perry” (photography) Bi-Centennial Entry.



WED, FEB 14

• **Opera “L’Elisir d’Amore”** by Donizetti: 11 a.m.; in high definition from The Metropolitan Opera, Cobb Pinnacle 14 Movie Theater.

• **Gulf Shores Author Series presents Felder Rushing:** 11 a.m.; free; Gulf Shores Cultural Arts Center; (251) 968-9818.

• **Email • Flora-Bama Possible Probables:** 2 p.m. ‘til; (Sched. on pages 32-33), Flora-Bama, Perdido Key.

• **Flora-Bama Bingo:** free; 1-4 p.m.; great prizes, family friendly; 17401 Perdido Key Dr., Perdido Key.

• **Snowbird Listings:** Snowbird oriented events on pages 52 to 61.

• **Valentine’s Day Chocolate & Beer Pairing:** 4-10 p.m.; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.

• **Valentine’s Day Vow Renewal:** registration at noon; games, prizes, champagne toast and cake; Pappa Rocco’s; Gulf Shores.

• **Adam Holt:** 5; LuLu’s at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.

• **Open Mic Night:** 5:30; Tacky Jack’s, Gulf Shores.

• **Shelby Brown:** 3 p.m.; The Intracoastal at The Wharf; Orange Beach.

• **Danny Grady:** 3:30-5:30 p.m.; Pappa Rocco’s; Gulf Shores.

• **Snowbird Dinner Dance w. Ron, Burt & Marvin:** 6-9 p.m.; The Cove Restaurant & Grill; Gulf Shores.

• **John Lee Sanders:** 6; Voyagers Restaurant at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.

• **John Brust:** 6; The Lobby Bar at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.

• **Big Beach Running Club:** 5:30 p.m.; Big Beach Brewery in Gulf Shores; all levels welcome.

• **Frankie G. On Piano:** 6:30; Franco’s Italian Restaurant; Orange Beach.

• **Karaoke:** 7; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.

• **John Joiner & Friends:** 7; Hub Stacy’s, Innerarity Point.

• **Shaggy J & The Coastal Vibrations:** 6; The Purple Parrot; Perdido Key.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING



- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 8; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke:** 9; The Office, Foley.
- **Family Night Dinner & Activities:** 5:45 p.m.; Saint Andrew by the Sea, 17263 Fort Morgan Rd., Gulf Shores; 678-361-2762.
- **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis:** 7:30 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center; corner of West 19th Ave. and West 2nd St.
- **Veteran's Bingo:** 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; American Legion Post 99, Foley.
- **Trivia Night:** 6:30 p.m.; The Gulf Coast Elks Lodge 2789, Foley; 251-550-1060.
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Activities Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

sacola.

- **Bingo:** 6 p.m.; American Legion Post 240; 8666 Gulf Beach Hwy.; Pensacola.
- **South Alabama Senior Travelers:** 9 a.m.; Foley Senior Center; visitors welcome; 251-928-4494.
- **Orange Beach Friends of the Library:** 10; Library meeting room; 978-4106.
- **Food Ministry For Hungry Families:** noon-1 p.m.; Grace Lutheran Church, corner of West 23rd Ave. and West 4th St. in Gulf Shores; 251-968-5991.
- **Bread Ministry:** 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Orange Beach United Methodist Church Brook's Center.
- **Food Bank:** 9 - 11 a.m. every Wednesday, Perdido Bay Baptist Church, 12600 Sorrento Rd. Pensacola; call for eligibility

requirements at (850) 492-2604.

- **Gulf Shores Woman's Club:** 11 a.m.; Palmer Room at Craft Farms; all interested women invited to attend; 251-980-5722.
- **Perdido Key Rotary Club:** 7:30 a.m.; every Wednesday at Triggers. 850.492.8335.
- **Gulf Shores Lions Club:** noon; 2nd & 4th Wednesday; noon; Gulf Shores Community House, 300 E. 16th Avenue; 251-968-2823.
- **Storytime at Pensacola Southwest Branch Library:** free; infant to 5; 10:30-11; (850)453-7780.
- **AA:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

Skins Games held monthly at Orange Beach Golf Center

The City of Orange Beach Golf Center will hold Skins Game tournaments on the first Sunday of each month through April, with a shotgun start at 1 p.m.

Each player places \$5 to a pot for Skins and \$2 in a pot for closest-to-the-pin on a designated hole.

There are nine Orange Beach merchants sponsoring a hole-in-one, which pays \$250. Free hot dogs will be served prior to the tournament. The Orange Beach Golf Center is located at 4700 Easy Street, off of Canal Road. Info: 251-981-GOLF(4653). The 9-Hole, Par-3 Course is open daily from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. The lighted Driving Range is open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Al Peck Tennis Tourney slated March 10 at O.B. Tennis Center

The Al Peck Century Tennis Tournament will be held on Saturday, March 10 at the Orange Beach Tennis Center. This is a one day tournament. Players are guaranteed 2 matches with 10 game pro sets. The combined ages of each team must equal at least 100 years or more. Entry fee is \$25 per person or \$50 per team. This will include lunch, drinks and a souvenir. Awards will be given for 1st, 2nd and Consolation winners. The Orange Beach Tennis Center is located at 4851 Wilson Blvd. Call 251-974-6387 for more info.

Race to the Top of Turquoise Place (31 floors) slated March 3

The Torch Run for Special Olympics 6th Annual Race to the Top of the Tower at Turquoise Place will be held on Saturday, March 3 at 10 a.m. This stair race up 31 floors is open to the general public as well as all local and regional firefighters, police, EMS, and military personnel. Come out and test your fitness level with our local heroes and compete for a 3-night stay at Turquoise Place and for the bragging rights to the "Top of the Tower Champion" title. Spectrum Resorts is a proud sponsor of the fundraiser, which includes a lazy river duck race benefitting local Special Olympic athletes. To sign up for the race online, visit register.chronotrack.com/r/36894, or at Turquoise Place prior to the start of the race. The cost is \$30 per person with discounts given for first responders and early online registrations. Participants are invited to enjoy a post-race celebration.



Charlie Williams has Island Spirit

The Coastal Alabama Business Chamber recently presented its Island Spirit Award for January to Charlie Williams - City of Gulf Shores. Megan Smith, VP of Business Development for the Coastal Alabama Business Chamber, cited Williams' dedication to her job and the Coastal Alabama area. The person who nominated Ms. Williams had this to say about her, "Charlie is the friendliest and most courteous of all workers. She always stops what she is doing to visit with walkers, team members and families. Her instant smile endears her to all she meets." The Island Spirit Award was designed to give recognition to individuals who make special contributions to the quality of life we enjoy in the Coastal Alabama region. Penny Groux chairs the Island Spirit Committee.

Foley Woman's Club Mad Hatters Luncheon March 8

Alice's Wonderland is coming to Foley on March 8, as dreams of taking a train to cartoon-land for a red carpet reception await those attending the Foley Woman's Club 13th annual Mad Hatter's fundraising event at the Foley Civic Center. Doors open at 10 a.m.

The event will include a catered luncheon, ad contests for most creative, most glamorous and craziest, raffles, a silent auction, entertainment and a Pot-of-Gold drawing. Tickets are on sale now for \$30. Contact Chris Anglin at 251-943-3443 for more ticket information. Funds raised at the event will go to men's and women's services in Baldwin County.

Pictured: Big fun at the 2017 Western themed Mad Hatters.

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SNOWBIRD NEWS

Welcome Wednesdays at Bama

Welcome Wednesdays potluck lunches are back at the Flora-Bama through March 1. The weekly lunch features live music, followed by drawings for goods, services and merchandise compliments of the Flora-Bama and local businesses. Music begins at 11 a.m. The 1 p.m. buffet is \$3 per person or free for those bringing a side dish. The Flora-Bama is located directly on the Gulf of Mexico at the Florida-Alabama interstate line.

Tacky Jacks Winter of Fun

Winter visitors looking for fun can find it at Tacky Jacks in Gulf Shores (on the Intracoastal Watway). The Tacky Winter of Fun series will feature different events to include regional artists, local organizations, and games each Monday this winter beginning January 8. For a monthly schedule of events, to RSVP or for more info, go to tackyjacks.com or call 251-948-8881.

- February 5, 10-11:30 am; Beach Games, Game Show Edition. Do you like Game Shows? Play games like Let's Make a Deal, The Price is Right and Trivia. Win prizes, free for all ages!
 - February 12, 10-11:30 am; Art al Fresco "Mardi Gras Bead Mosaic or Wreath". All ages lunch & learn \$15 includes lunch, RSVP online or by phone.
 - February 19, 10-11:30 am; Art al Fresco String Art. Wood, nail and string project. All ages lunch & learn \$15 includes lunch. RSVP online or by phone. Arrive 15 minutes early.
- For more info, visit tackyjacks.com.

Michigan "Yoooper" Luncheon

The 35th Annual Michigan "Yoooper" (Upper Peninsula) luncheon will be held Thursday, February 15th at Luna's at Cosmos's Courtyard, 25753 Canal Road, Orange Beach in the Magnolia Hall beginning at 11:30 a.m. There will be a buffet lunch with 3 meats, 3 sides, coffee, tea, and dessert. The cost is \$15 including tax and gratuity. We can accept cash only as it has to be collected at the door by your U.P. crew. All Michigan U.P. folks (past and present) and friends of the U.P. are invited! No need to call, just come and enjoy! Any questions call or text: Gary Boushelle (989-387-0332) or e-mail gboushelle@char-ter.net

Snowbird Trivia Night slated

Feb. 17 at O.B. Event Center

The Friends of the Orange Beach Library will be hosting Snowbird Trivia Night on Saturday, February 17 at the Orange Beach Event Center at the Wharf. Tables are \$120, with 8 players per table. Doors will open at 5 p.m., and play starts at 6 p.m. Enrollment forms are available at Orange Beach Public Library and Gulf Shores Library. If you have any questions, please call Larry or Sharon at 251-975-1258 and leave a message.

Bratfest is Feb. 3

The 20th Annual Pleasure Island Firefighters Bob Gilray Memorial Snowbird Bratfest will be held on Saturday, February 3 at the Gulf Shores Adult Activity Center, located adjacent to the Erie Meyer Civic Center in Gulf Shores. Brats are \$4. The festivities start at 8 a.m. and will continue until 11 a.m. or until sold out. All proceeds benefit local Fire and Rescue Departments. The event has raised over \$165,000 in the past 19 years. It is a rain or shine event and carry out and take-out services are available in addition to the walk-thru lines.

The event is sponsored by the following Snowbird Clubs: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

Foley Art Center Snowbird sessions

Snowbird art sessions at the Foley Art Center are scheduled every Wednesday beginning Feb. 7 for only \$5 per class for instructor-led painting classes from 10-11:30 a.m. through March 21.

Each day we will tackle a new painting, and each day snowbird artists will learn new painting techniques and leave at the end of the session with a completed masterpiece! Paintings will be led by demonstration and cover acrylic and watercolor mediums. All supplies are provided! The Foley Art Center is located at 211 N McKenzie St. (Hwy. 59). Info: (251) 943-4381.

P.E.O. member coffee is Jan. 22

P.E.O. Chapter AG of South Baldwin County is inviting all visiting snowbird P.E.O. members to join us for a coffee on Monday, January 22 to be held at the home of chapter president, Karen Brown. For reservations and directions, please contact Sheila Morgan, 251-942-3216 or Karen Brown, 251-233-3550.

P.E.O. is a pioneer women's society with chapters throughout the United States and Canada. It's primary mission is to promote education for women through scholarships, loans, grants and the stewardship of Cottey College.

Sweet Harmony Chorus

By Pamula K Rustan

Sweet harmony is a group of woman snowbirds and local residence who like to sing women's acapella music in the barbershop close harmony style. We are still looking for more singers especially if you can attend beginning the first week of February. We are really looking for lower (alto or tenor range) women's voices but will welcome any singer who wishes to join us. We meet at the Gulf shores United Methodist Church Choir room, on Mondays form 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm with sectionals ½ hour before or after rehearsal. You do not need to read music as we have training CD's available. The Sweet Harmony Chorus will be singing for the Haven Memory Care on Feb. 15th, at the Dakota club Breakfast on Feb. 20th, will be singing for the Balwin House Memory Care on Feb. 22, and the Wisconsin club on March 7th. We invite anyone who wishes to hear us to our concert at the Gulf Breeze RV Park on Saturday Feb. 24 at 7:00 pm. Join us in singing or come to our performances we would love to greet you all.

Snowbird softball every Wed.

By John McCabe

On each Monday and Wednesday at 9:30 AM at the Bodenhammer Center in Gulf Shores you are invited to join us to play slow pitch softball at the baseball/softball fields. On most Fridays we play against Pensacola's Seniors at alternating locations. On Monday and Wednesday we have batting practice and then a pickup game. There is a good blend of locals and snowbirds. The players abilities are not a consideration for play. The moderating weather permitted us to begin play. The included photo is from our first meeting this year. Should you have any questions please contact John McCabe at 251-981-9787.

Snowbird Men's Coffee Club

By Larry Cole

The Gulf Shores Men's Snowbird Coffee Club hold their meetings at Ginny Lane Bar and Grill, 4851 Wharf Pkwy. E., Orange Beach every Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning from 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. Membership information is available at these meetings. The oldest continually active snowbird club has more than 300 members from twenty-six states and three Canadian provinces. Besides raising money for local charities, the club holds golf outings, sponsors casino trips and conducts breakfast

meetings for members and spouses. The club also throws horseshoes on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at noon at Meyer Park in Gulf Shores.

Officers for the 2018 season are: Mike Culverhouse, president, Michigan; Dale Orchard, vice president, Michigan; Carl Crump, secretary, Missouri and Tom Williams, treasurer, Michigan. Kevin Probst from Alabama will schedule all golf outings.

GSUMC Snowbird Coffee gathering

Every Tuesday from through February 27 there will be a free snowbird coffee gathering that is open to the public with an emphasis on snowbirds from all states. The group meets in Building B of the Gulf Shores United Methodist Church (1900 Gulf Shores Parkway) at 9 a.m. Refreshments are included with a sing along and a program featuring local talent: Sandspur Band, Sway Back Music, Gulf Shores State Park, Andrea & Chris Carstens Folk Duo, Lace & Sand, and Four Winds Barbershop to name a few. Door prizes are given as donated by local businesses. There is no coffee on February 13 (Fat Tuesday). This is a snowbird volunteer event and has been offering a meet and greet forum for visitors of 100 to 600 over the past several years. A goodwill donation is offered to pray expenses and proceeds are donated to the Gulf Shores United Methodist Church for their outreach and community service needs. For more info, call Mary Rebert, Tuesday Snowbird Coffee volunteer at 269-330-3748 or email maryrebert@yahoo.com.

Snowbird Singles

Snowbird Singles is open to both men and women and will meet once a month. The luncheons are open to all Snowbirds in the Gulf Shores & Orange Beach area. The first will be on February 12, at Luna's, at 11:30 AM, located at 25763 Canal Road, Orange Beach. The second is on March 12, at Cactus Cantina, 25910 Canal Road, Orange Beach at 11:30 AM. Come and enjoy a meal and meet friends and new Snowbirds. For more information contact

Barb at 414-801-0715 OR bionicbarbs@aol.com .

Snowbird Theater seeks 2019 cast and crew

By Judi Pugh

Join the fun next year with The Snowbird Theater Company. We are looking for a Director and snowbird Actors and Actresses for our 2019 Snowbird production of "Jack of Diamonds". A list of duties and responsibilities for these and other volunteer positions are available. Auditions will be held at the SBCT (South Baldwin Community Theater, at 2022 West 2nd St., Gulf Shores. Dates and times will be determined after talking with those interested. Actors and Actresses must be in Gulf Shores for all of January 2019 for rehearsals. Typical rehearsal schedule could be Mon. through Fri. for 4 hours with full day commitments the last of January and the first week of February. The play will run for two weeks in February Wed. through Sun.

For a chance to read the script before audition and learn about audition times, please contact Larry Rebert at 269-330-4215 or larryrebert@yahoo.com. The Snowbird Theater Company is always looking for snowbirds to help this year and in 2019 both back stage and off stage (front of house). If you have carpenter skills, can paint, are interest in Lighting or Sound, shopping for effects and props or if you would like to help with front of house by baking cookies, working the Box Office and selling tickets, or working during intermission to serve food and drinks please contact Rebert.

The "Jack of Diamonds" has 3 male and 4 female roles. That includes - Jack - a former jeweler who made his living buying and selling diamonds on late-night TV ads, is now retired in a luxury retirement home and is about to find his retirement savings are gone because of a Ponzi scheme; Then there is Barney - the smooth-talking creator of the Ponzi scheme; Rose - a resident visually challenged techno-wizard. Flora - artistically gifted but forgetful; Blanche - a glamour gal with a tendency to narcolepsy (daytime sleepiness); A nurse from hell who dispenses Depends and laxatives like an avenging angel; A man with several small roles in the play.



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SNOWBIRD NEWS

Pennsylvania

The Pennsylvania Snowbird Club meets Wednesday mornings for breakfast at 8:00 a.m. Our meeting dates are: January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; February 7, 14, 28; March 7. For place of meeting information and our other activities please contact Rich Smith at 484 264 1394 or betttyrich@rcn.com.

New York

By Frank Panczyszyn

New York's next luncheon will be Thursday, February 8th, at GILBEY'S (note this is a onetime 2018 change from Ginny Lane). They will gather for registration at 11AM, and begin lunch at 1130AM. They will select from a special menu and receive separate checks, which will include gratuity. \$1 per person will be collected at registration. The luncheon guest will be Bailey Kennon, now Miss Leads and contestant again for Miss Alabama 2018. For attendance, if you haven't already done so, contact Tracy by text or call 585-748-0133, or email nysnowbirds@gmail.com no later than February 5th. The last two luncheons, February 22nd and March 8th, will return to Ginny Lane.

New York Snowbirds enjoyed their second luncheon on Thursday, January 25th at Ginny Lane at the Wharf in Orange Beach. Nearly 70 New Yorkers and guests enjoyed hearing from Kim Dahlgren, General Manager, Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo, "The Little Zoo That Could", and updated all on the zoo and its hopes and plans. Dick Dierna, from Rochester, facilitated the 50-25-25 sales, leading to two lucky attendees receiving a nice prize; and Jean Bidwell from Canandaigua facilitated a raffle for a blanket, made by Joanne Albrecht, from Owego. The proceeds from these sales and \$1 per person collected on registration covers expenses, but more importantly goes to contributions returned to the local communities at the end of the winter season.

Jim Mills, from Broadalbin, reported on the Brat Fest, February 3rd, and that the Gulf Shores Fire Department Pancake Breakfast, originally scheduled for February 10th, has been cancelled due to conflicts with Mardi Gras parades and other functions that day. Volunteers are ready for the Brat Fest, and some are relieved they do not have to get up too early on the 10th. Lenny McKinnon, from Canton, organized a very successful bus trip to the Scarlet Pearl in Biloxi, (even though it was rescheduled due to the weather, from the 17th to the 24th), and received consensus that she will schedule another one in February...de-tails TBD. Frank Panczyszyn, from Point Breeze, reported on the Library fund raiser, Trivia Night, February 17th; and the Zoo fund raiser, Low Country Boil, February 23rd; and circulated signup sheets for volunteers and participants. Call or email Frank for details and interest in volunteering or participating at 585-748-0432 / fpanczy@gmail.com. He also reported on the Golf Tournament fund raiser for the Baldwin County Heritage Museum, February 15th, and that

New York donated \$100 to sponsor a hole. Also reported was information on Memory Screening and Balance Testing to be conducted at multiple times and places over the next two months. All were reminded that on February 6th, at the Orange Beach Event Center, 3-5pm, Mayor Tony Kennon and his staff will conduct a Town Hall Meeting for visiting snowbirds.

Ohio

By Barbara Chandler

FEB 2 - GOODTIMES ROYALTY & RAMPART BUS TOUR-\$69 Ride to Carnival Museum in Mobile, get on a Mardi Gras Float, to Ft Gaines-Dauphin Island, to Toomey's Bead World and a box lunch. Signup sheet next meeting or call Ruth 740-361-9166. **FEB 5 - CRAFT FARMS LUNCH** 1pm - Order from menu; very nice lunch specials. Off County Rd 4, second entrance. **FEB 7 - CLUB BREAKFAST** MTG Magnolia Hall-LUNA's. \$10/person. Arrive between 8am-9am, buffet at 9am. Meeting follows. Dylan Tucker from Ft Morgan will speak. **FEB 12 - DEEP SEA FISHING CHARTER** Reel Surprise - \$65 Begins 7am. Sign up at next meeting or call Harold Fryman at 740-361-9180. **FEB 14 - PÖTLUCK AT THE PHOENIX** 5 6pm. **ASH WEDNESDAY & VALENTINE'S DAY.** Signup sheet at next meeting to bring a meat/fish, side dish or dessert or call Ruth 740-361-9166. **FEB 18 - BILLE'S BY THE BEACH DINNER** 5pm. If you signed up for the play Nana's Naughty Nickers, this dinner will be after the play. The restaurant is on West Beach Blvd on the north side. Signup sheet at next meeting or call Ruth 740-361-9166. **FEB 20 - DOLPHIN CRUISE** \$15 plus tax - Signup sheet at next meeting or call Ruth 740-361-9166. **FEB 21 - CLUB BREAKFAST** MTG Magnolia Hall-LUNA's. \$10/person. Arrive between 8am-9am, buffet at 9am. Meeting follows. Fourwinds Barbershop Chorus will entertain us. **FEB 23 - LOW COUNTRY BOIL** Fundraiser for the Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo- Weather permitting we will be at the Zoo on Hwy 59. If raining, we will be having the event at St Andrew by the Sea on Ft Morgan Road. All you can eat and your beverage. Gayle will be selling tickets starting at the Feb 7 breakfast and Bob Hofacker will have signup sheets then to volunteer. Signup sheet will be available at the next meeting or

call Bob or Gayle at 937-621-1700. **MAR 7 - CLUB BREAKFAST** MTG- Our last meeting. Magnolia Hall-LUNA's. \$10/person. Arrive between 8am-9am, buffet at 9am. Meeting follows. We are unconfirmed as of yet if we will have a speaker at our last meeting.

Michigan

Please contact Deb Singer at debisinger@yahoo.com if you have digital photos of club events and activities that you would like included in the Michigan Club photo album.

February 3rd - Bratfest at the Erie Meyer Center starting at 11:00 until sold out. February 5th - Golf: Perdido Bay, 12:00 Shotgun. Contact Bud Krukowski at 251-975-0459. February 6th - Ladies golf, Gulf State Park, 10:00. February 7th - Golf: Gulf Shores Golf Club, tee times 10:00-12:30. Contact Bill Knoll at 586-383-1217. IP Casino Trip. Meet at the track at 7:00a.m. Cost is \$13 and includes bus trip, \$20 free play and a half price luncheon. Contact Walt Salisbury at 231-450-2192. February 8th - Michigan Club Luncheon, Ginny Lane. 11:30. Contact Ed Phillipson at 989-621-9755. February 10th - Footgolf at Glen Lakes, 1:00. Contact Kyle Cruse at 517-243-7052. February 12th - Board meeting, St. Andrews Church, 10:00 Golf: Kiva Dunes, 12:00 shotgun, Contact Tom Tylka at 517-499-5671.

Other upcoming g events of importance: The Michigan Club trip to New Orleans will be on February 19th and 20th. \$197 pp, double occupancy. michiganclubalabama.com or 231-450-2192.

Law Enforcement Luncheon

There will be a retired Law Enforcement luncheon on Wednesday, February 21st at the American Legion, 6781 Ste Highway 59 in Gulf Shores. John MacMeekin, a retired prison administrator, will speak. Lunch will be ordered off the menu on your own. Contact Tom Westlake at 269-252-7029. Much more information is available on our website, michiganclubalabama.com. Please contact Deb Singer at debisinger@yahoo.com if you have digital photos of club events and activities that you would like included in the Michigan Club photo album.



Broadway & Movie Melodies Snowbird show at GSUMC

From "Motown Melodies" to the "Wizard of Oz", a number of favorite songs will be on the program at the annual Snowbird Broadway concert at Gulf Shores United Methodist Church Thursday and Friday February 1 and 2. Both evening concerts will be in the GSUMC sanctuary at 7pm. Tickets at \$10 per person are available Monday through Friday from 9am to noon at Thee Coffee Shop in the Winn Dixie Shopping Plaza on Rt. 59. Reserved seating is available for concert season supporters. The GSUMC Chancel Choir will be directed by Worship Arts Director Cody Johnson accompanied by pianist Jackie Dahلمان and a rhythm orchestra. Soloists will include Marsha Guyer, Barbara Shepard, Amelia Fletcher, Jimmy Warren and others with narrative by Bob Stoddard. Proceeds from the concert support the GSUMC music program. For further details, feel free to contact the GSUMC office at 251-968-2411 or visit the website at gulfshoresumc.org. **Pictured:** The GSUMC Chancel Choir as they performed in a prior Broadway Concert.



The Sandspur Band at GSUMC on Feb. 8

The well-known and loved bluegrass/gospel group The Sandspur Band will be in concert on February 8 at 7pm in the sanctuary of Gulf Shores United Methodist Church, 1900 Gulf Shores Parkway in Gulf Shores. Started in 2002, The Sandspur Band is a nurturing ministry of the Gulf Shores United Methodist Church. Over the years, they have taken their special brand of popular gospel music into homes of shut-ins as well as nursing homes and assisted living facilities. They also continue their tradition of frequent performances for numerous local church and community functions. Among the concert favorites you'll hear are songs like "Wayfaring Stranger" and "Sweet Beulah Land." Tickets at \$10 pp are available weekdays from 9am to noon in Thee Coffee Shop in the Winn Dixie Plaza and also at the door preceding the concert. Reserved seating is available for concert season supporters. All concert proceeds support the GSUMC music ministry. For more info, call 251-968-2411 or visit gulfshoresumc.org.

Other GSUMC Concerts

The Sandspur Band is followed by the USO So Modern show on February 9, Elvis Remembered with Foley's own Shane Tucker on February 12, the SOZO Children's Choir on February 15-16, Sacred Sounds Organ recital with Jackie Dahلمان and Tom Helms on February 18 and the Four Winds Barbershop Chorus on February 19. The series concludes on February 23 and 24 with Stained Glass Bluegrass concerts featuring four well-known and loved bluegrass gospel bands. All concerts are at 7pm (except Sacred Sounds at 6:30 and a 2:30 Stained Glass Bluegrass matinee on Feb. 24. **Pictured:** The Sandspur Band members are from l to r: Clarence Bauer (banjolele), Tommy Salter (bass), Susie Hewitt (vocals), Larry Davis (harmonica) and Mel Middlebrooks (guitar).



SNOWBIRD WINNERS FOR FIND IT IN FOLEY TREASURE HUNT:

Several winter visitors won prizes for participating in the "Find It in Foley" treasure hunt, held in conjunction with the 7th annual Visit Foley Coffee held on Jan. 9. The coffee is hosted on the second Tuesday in January by the city of Foley and the South Baldwin Chamber of Commerce to welcome winter guests and provide information about things to see and do in Foley and nearby areas. Prizes, including two Amazon Fire HD 10 tablets, a gift certificate for condo rental, money cards, gift certificates and items donated by local merchants, were awarded from a drawing of those who took time to visit points of interest that included shops and restaurants in downtown Foley. Merchants and organizations who supplied a gift certificate or prizes for the event included: the Foley Art Center, South Baldwin Regional Medical Center, Brett/Robinson, McKenzie Street Florist, Copper Kettle Tea Bar, and the Foley Welcome Center. Visitors who attended the coffee received welcome bags that contain discount coupons and information from area businesses. Welcome bags will continue to be distributed at the Foley Welcome Center as long as supplies last. **Pictured:** From left to right, are Darl Williams of Wyoming; Larry Grant of Wheaton, Illinois; Karen Williams of Indiana; Jeanne and David Alexander of Hilton, New York; Second Row: Sonny Wainio of Wakefield, Michigan; Kathy Dillahay of Uniontown, Missouri; Travis Valentine of South Baldwin Chamber of Commerce and LaDonna Hinesley of the City of Foley.

SNOWBIRD NEWS

Indiana

By Becky Chatham-Heidenreich

Welcome to all IN snowbirds. You are cordially invited to the IN snowbird breakfasts on Feb. 8 & 22 and March 8. The breakfasts are at the Luna Event Center located next to Cosmos behind Buzcatz Coffee Shop on Canal Rd. The cost for the buffet breakfast is \$10 per person (no bills over \$20, please). The annual club dues are \$2.50. The doors open at 7:30 and breakfast is served at 8:00. We have a 50/50 drawing (\$1 per ticket, or 6 tickets for \$5, or 13 tickets for \$10) and great door prizes. If you did not sign up at the last breakfast, please call Jan Pell, 317-914-5832, for reservations. Come and greet old and new friends and have fun. Bring any box tops and can tabs to be donated to the Bon Secour Elementary School.

The IN club participates in the following activities: The Snowbird Festival Jan. 27 at the Orange Beach Event Center at the Wharf. The Brat Fest, Feb. 3 from 11 AM till sold out at the Gulf Shores Gulf Shores Adult Activity Center. Proceeds go to Gulf Shores Fire, Orange Beach Fire, Fort Morgan Fire, and Rescue Departments.

Snowbird Trivia Night February 17 at the Orange Beach Event Center at the Wharf.

The Snowbird Play at the South Baldwin Community Theatre, 2022 W. Second St. Gulf Shores. First performance is Feb. 8. The Low Country Boil at the Zoo in Gulf Shores Feb. 23. Proceeds go to the Zoo.

The Jan. 25th breakfast speaker, Rhonda Davis, of the USS Alabama gave attendees much information about the ship located in Mobile. Feb. 3 is a special program presented by the Living History Crew with many events planned at the USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park located in Mobile. Many interesting facts about the USS Alabama ship and the USS Drum submarine were shared by Rhonda. One fact was that the elementary children of AL were the actual savers of the USS Alabama by raising \$100,000 in 1964-1965.

Hope to see you at the Feb. 8 breakfast, the speaker will be Grant Brown of Recreation and Cultural Affairs and the Feb. 22 breakfast featuring a speaker from the Stove House in Bon Secour.

Iowa

By Fran Gruenhaupt

The Iowa Snowbird Club will meet Wednesday, February 7 at 8:30 AM at the Perdido Beach Resort, 27200 East Perdido Beach Boulevard in Orange Beach for a breakfast meeting and program. \$10.50 per person. The program will feature representatives from the Orange Beach Mayor's Office with information and entertainment. Reservations for the buffet breakfast can be made on the website: Iowa-

Alabamagulfcoastsnowbirds.org (preferred), or by calling Shari DeCook, 641-521-0929 or Sharon Hesselmann, 563-357-2721. Door prizes will be awarded and a 50/50 drawing held. The program at the January 24th breakfast featured Chandra Wright, Nature

Tourism Special with the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Consortium and the Gulf Shores and Orange Beach Tourism with 212 members in attendance. Club officers were introduced, first time attendees were recognized, and event chairmen gave information about the Bratfest, Low Country Boil, and Golf outings.

Future Iowa Snowbird breakfast meetings will be Wednesdays February 21 and March 7 at the Perdido Beach Resort. Reservations should be made on the website. There is no membership fee and all Iowans and their guests are welcome at club events. The Iowa golf group also welcomes anyone with sign-up through the website.

An Iowa Snowbird group Cocktail Party was held on Friday, January 26 at the Caribe Resort, Orange Beach. A social evening was enjoyed and many door prizes were awarded. The next cocktail party will be February 23, 5-7PM at the Caribe Resort, Building C, 28103 Perdido Beach Boulevard, Orange Beach. No RSVP is required. Bring a dish to share and your own beverage. Snowbirds may check the website, iowa-alabamagulfcoastsnowbirds.org for updates and a listing of activities.

Minnesota

The Minnesota Snowbird Club meets each Tuesday for an informational breakfast, January through mid March at GT's On The Bay located on 26189 Canal Rd, Orange Beach. For directions: www.gtsonthebay.com. Reservations are not required. Doors open 7:30 am; breakfast 8:00 am. Cost: \$10, includes tax and tip. Cash or check only. We cannot accept bills over \$20. Food donations and/or cash are gratefully accepted at each meeting for the Christian Service Center, the dedicated project of the MN Club. For information regarding upcoming events, golf tee times, or a contact number log onto the Minnesota Club website: mnal.org or facebook.com/mnalclub

North & South Dakota

The Gulf Shores based North and South Dakota Snowbird Club meets on the following alternate Tuesday mornings in January, February and March beginning on January 9, January 23, February 6, February 20 and March 6. We gather at Luna's Eat & Drink, 25753 Canel Road, Orange Beach, at 8:30 a.m. for breakfast with a short meeting to follow at 9 a.m. We also hold several other social events throughout the winter season including pot lucks, dinner at local restaurants, etc. While in Gulf Shores we collect food and infant items at our breakfast meetings for the local food pantry and also contribute to other not for profit fundraisers in the local Baldwin County area. For more information contact Joyce at 605-351-0274.

Illinois

By John James

116 Illinois Snowbirds and guests enjoyed breakfast at GT's On The Bay Friday, January 26th. The speaker was Mark Wentzel from Five Rivers/Alabama's Delta Resource Center. He brought 11-month-old Great Horned Owl "Wahlberg" and described how they live. Wahlberg almost continuously emitted a high-pitched cry--a signal to his "mama". We appreciate Mark bringing his "friend". Upcoming is the Snowbird Bratfest on February 3rd from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Erie Meyer Center in Gulf Shores. The Alabama Lifestyles Expo will be at The Caribe on February

8th, from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Our next breakfast is February 9th at GT's On the Bay in Orange Beach; doors open at 7:45 AM. Tentative speaker is Alicia Tally of the Gulf Shores K-9 Unit. Call the Kolek's at 630-738-8717 for reservations prior to the 7th. At 9:30 AM on the 15th, at the Orange Beach Library, the Book Club will meet to discuss Big Stone Gap by Adriana Trigiani. Also on the 15th is the Snowbird Play "Nana's Naughty Knickers". Trivia Night, at the Orange Beach Events Center, is on the 17th. Doors open at 6:00 PM. On the 23rd, at the Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo, is the Low Country Boil, to benefit the zoo.

Missouri

By Nick Barr

The Missouri Club of Gulf Shores/Orange Beach is one of the smaller state snowbird clubs, with about 75-90 members. We gather on alternate Wednesdays for business meetings and for breakfast meetings. Our club is primarily social with very, very little in the way of fundraising and work assignments. It's a good way to make new friendships that will continue when you return north at the end of the snowbird season. Lifetime membership is \$10/person. For more information, contact Nick Barr: stlouisnick@sbcglobal.net. We will meet for breakfast at the Perdido Beach Resort on Wednesdays, Feb 7 and 21 at 9 a.m. Regular meetings are Wednesdays Jan 31 and Feb 14 at Phoenix V, ground floor meeting room, also at 9AM. We have Golf Scrambles on Wednesdays after the meetings. If you want more information and a spot, contact Bob Miller: millerbob-stl@att.net

Coming up we have Game night Jan 27, Fat Tuesday party Feb 13, and the Farewell pot luck dinner, all at Phoenix V. We also participate in the Bratfest on Feb 3, and the Pancake Breakfast Feb 10 along with the other area state clubs. Those events are held at the Erie Meyer center in downtown Gulf Shores.

While the Missouri Club is proud of the fact that we established and sponsored the annual Trivia Night at the Orange Beach Event Center for ten years, the event is now under the aegis of the Friends of the Orange Beach Library. The event has netted the Orange Beach and Gulf Shores Libraries much more than \$50K through the years. Of course the Missouri Club does attend along with many other state snowbirds and local residents. It is a really fun night and this year it will be held on Feb 17 at 5:00 pm. You can get a table application at the library branches or you can download the form at mosnowbirds.org. You should not delay because the tables do fill up fast. It's a party so bring your friends, table decorations, costumes, snacks and drinks and have a great time. You'll be glad you did.

Wisconsin

By Nancy Durgin

The WI Sno-bird Club met on January 17 at the Orange Beach Event Center (OBEC) at the Wharf for donuts and coffee at 8:30 am with the meeting starting at 9 am. Grant Brown, Reparations & Cultural Affairs Director was our speaker. We got a very complete update on Gulf Shores current construction and plans for making the community a great destination for vacationers, part-time and full-time residents. Thank you, Mike, for asking Grant to join us.

Everyone from WI is welcome at our meetings! We have a book/puzzle exchange, opportunities to volunteer, day and overnight trips, singles events.

Cards will be played every Friday from 9 am to noon at the Hogfish Grille (formerly Lester's), 24821 Canal Road, Orange Beach (OB). Special rates for golf are available at GlenLakes Golf Club every weekday. We also collect the following: Campbell soup labels, Nestle water bottle labels, General Mills and Johnson & Johnson boxtops for education, manufacturer's coupons, empty printer ink cartridges and pop-top rings. For more information contact Kenn at 251-967-2463 OR wissnobirds@yahoo.com.

Saturday, February 3 – Bob Gilray Memorial BRAT FEST, Fire Departments

benefit; Wednesday, February 7 - 8:30 am meeting at OBEC; Saturday, February 10 – Pancake Breakfast – Erie Meyer Center – GS Fire Dept benefit; Monday, February 12 – 11:30 am - Singles Group meets at Luna's in OB; Tuesday, February 13 – 8-pin No Tab Bowling, charity TBA; Thursday, February 15 – Baldwin County Heritage Museum Golf Scramble benefit; Saturday, February 17 - Pensacola Dog Track; THURSDAY, February 22 – 8:30 am meeting at OBEC (Note change of DAY); Friday, February 23 - Low Country Boil, Zoo benefit - RSVP.

Butch On The Beach

By Butch Burch, Realtor
Roberts Brothers Inc.



"Company's Coming-Yikes!!!"

One of the hazards about moving to the coast is that you attract visitors whether you want them or not. It seems that everyone wants to come for a visit. First, it's the family and close friends-mostly people who you really want to see. Gradually, as more and more folks discover that you're living near the beach, people you barely know can't wait to come and spend some time with you.

A phone conversation goes something like this:

Me: "Hello."

"Hey, good buddy, it's Bubba!"

"Who?"

"Bubba. You remember, my uncle was married to your aunt's cousin up until she got run over by that there Amish wagon."

"I'm not sure...."

"Yeah, you do. We went camping with some other fellas a while ago."

It's all coming back. "You were the one who fixed the stew and got all the soap suds in the pot."

"Yep, that's me."

"I had diarrhea for a month."

He laughed. "I knew you'd remember. It was just like yesterday."

"We were twelve."

"We'll have all kinds of time to talk when we get down there," he warned.

"Huh?" My pulse quickened.

"Me and the family is coming down to spend a week or so with you. The timing couldn't be better, as my oldest just had his parole come through."

"I'm not...." I stammered.

"And don't you worry none about takin' us out to eat. We'll just chow down on whatever you're fixin'. A couple of the kids wanted to bring a friend or two, so I figure the more the merrier. Now, you know we don't go nowhere without our three Great Dane pups. And the good news is that they is nearly house broke."

I'm trying to think of excuses. "Hey, that would be great, but I'm having open heart surgery in the morning and the wife is still on crutches from her hip surgery."

"Not to worry," he replies. "Them doctors anymore can work miracles, and I'm bettin' the two of you will be up to takin' care of us in no time. Leave the light on 'cause we'll be seein' ya next week."

My first instinct was to panic. The wife and I agonized over how best to handle the situation. Thoughts of our home with irreparable damage and our quiet, secure lives turned upside down ran through our minds. Finally, we settled down and calmly decided on the most logical course of action. We burned down the house and entered into the "Witness Protection Program".

"Y'all have a good day!"

Butch & Beth Durgin (and Sam the dog) bought their Gulf Shores retirement home in 2015; moving from Southern Missouri in the Spring of 2016. Butch struggled with the concept of retirement and decided to become a realtor and work with like-minded folks who enjoy the great weather and beautiful beaches of South Alabama.

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February 7-15 2018

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Moon Pies!

DRINK SPECIALS!

LIVE MUSIC!
All Day Fat Tuesday

Party with us!

Friday Feb. 9th
Saturday Feb. 10th & Fat Tuesday on the 13th!

Watch the parades with us from our outdoor decks!

Mardi Gras Snack Specials

- Red Beans and Rice Cup **3** Bowl **6**
- Steamed Shrimp Peel and Eat 1/2 lb **12** 1 lb. **18** Shrimp Only
- Chicken Tenders Small **8** Large **14**
- Popcorn Shrimp 1/2 lb **10** Shrimp Only

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SNOWBIRD NEWS

O.B. Library Thurs. presentations

The Orange Beach Public Library will be hosting a series of presentations every Thursday in January and February. These presentations are open to the public, and are free of charge, with the exception of the Peter Fletcher Concert on

February 8th. Tickets to this event are \$7, and will be available for purchase at the Orange Beach Public Library.

All programs will take place at the Senior Center, next to the library, and will start at 6 p.m. lasting for approximately one hour. Info: dmcowell@cityoforangebeach.com or 251-981-2923.

Schedule

February 1 - Urban Gardens by Dale Speejans

February 8 - Classical Guitarist Peter Fletcher. Tickets are \$7 and are available for purchase at the Orange Beach Public Library*

February 15 - Pensacola Naval Aviation Presentation

February 22 - Mobile Art Museum by Glenn Bingham

Ft. Morgan Civil War Tours

every Tuesday in Jan. & Feb.

Qualified historians will provide historical insights on various periods of Fort Morgan's History as part of a tour scheduled every Tuesday afternoon from 2-3 p.m. at the fort, located at the west end of Ft. Morgan Rd. in Gulf Shores. Tour dates are Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, and Feb. 6, 13, 20 and 27. The tour is weather permitting.

Tour topics include Fort Bowyer, Early Civil War, Battle of Mobile Bay, Siege of Fort Morgan and Overview of the Civil War at Mobile Point. Reservations are not required for these tours, and weather conditions may cause the event to be can-

celled. Admission to the fort is \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors and students and \$4 for children 6 to 12. For more info, visit fort-morgan.org or call 251-251-540-5257 or 251-540-7127.

Preceded by another fort, Fort Bowyer during the War of 1812, Fort Morgan is a Third System masonry fort built between 1819 and 1833. Standing guard where the bay meets the Gulf of Mexico, the fort played a significant role in the Battle of Mobile Bay in August 1864. Used intermittently through the Spanish American War, World War I and World War II, the site showcases the evolution of seacoast fortifications and adaptations made by the U.S. Army for the defense of the country.

The fort is most famous for its role in the Civil War Battle of Mobile Bay. Union Ad-

miral David Farragut damned the torpedoes and went full speed ahead.

Wisconsin Synod Lutherans

will be meeting at St. Jude's

Gulf Shores area WELS / ELS Members Wisconsin Synod Lutherans will have local church services with Holy Communion conducted as follows: January 7 & 21, February 4 at 4 p.m. with Bible class to follow at St Jude by the Sea Lutheran Church, located at 312 E 16th Ave. in Gulf Shores. Make checks payable to: Risen Savior Luth. Church. For more info, contact Evan Dobberfuhl at 715-573-0808 or tpcevan@gmail.com.

MEET MOBILE DAY AT ORANGE BEACH EVENT CENTER



BORN TO CELEBRATE MARDI GRAS



As the city that is Born To Celebrate, we consider this our Super Bowl of celebrations. Welcome to Mobile, America's original Mardi Gras. You should know that Moon Pies, a gentleman named Joe Cain and bead trees are a thing here. Every year, we dance in the streets, dive for the best throws and celebrate the season right where it originally started.

The celebration begins by following **Mobile Mardi Gras** on Facebook where you'll enjoy a behind-the-scenes look at parades, balls and other festivities as we partner with Mobile Mask to bring you the best coverage of the 2018 Mobile Mardi Gras season. Between parades, you'll discover that our celebratory city will charm you and like our cuisine, will leave you craving for more. When Mardi Gras comes to a close, it doesn't mean the party is over. Mobile.org is the place to go for year-round activities, events and Mobile happenings you won't want to miss!



BORN TO CELEBRATE



SNOWBIRD NEWS

Snowbird Cribbage every Friday

Snowbirds are gathering to play Cribbage every Friday. Sign up starts at 12:30 pm and play begins at 1 pm at the Gulf Shores American Legion, Post 44, 6781 Hwy. 59. For additional information, contact Barbara Beamish at 989-464-8605. The last day of play is March 9. All Cribbage players are welcome to play.

Snowbird Dulcimer Players

Mt Dulcimer Players - Meet M 10-11:30 am, W 2:15-3:45, Jan 3-Mar 28, Thomas Norton Library, 221 W 19th Ave, Gulf Shores. Novice beginners W only 3:45-4:45. For more information, call Irene Morrison at 231-487-0126.

P.E.O. Chapter to Present Four-A-Change Feb. 22

On Thursday, February 22, Chapter AG of P.E.O. will present a fundraising event "A Little Afternoon Music" featuring the vocal talents of (pictured) Four-A - Change. The quartet is made up of long

standing members of the Coastal Choral: Katrina Anderson, Tracey Best, Jonathan Wallace and Jennifer Watkins. Known for their unique stylings and varied types of musical numbers, they have become popular entertainers with both snowbirds and locals. The program will be given at the First Presbyterian Church in Foley at 2 p.m. Tickets for the event are \$15 and will be available through the P.E.O. members and at Jubilee Apparel and Gifts in Pelican Place, Gulf Shores. The afternoon will consist of music and an intermission for treats and coffee or tea.

P.E.O. is a philanthropic educational organization that offers scholarships, grants, and loans to women seeking higher education. All proceeds from "A Little Afternoon Music" will benefit these endeavors. For further information, contact Marianne Hawkins at 967-3212 or Karen Brown at 233-3550.

Heritage Museum Golf Scramble

By Nancy Durgin

The Baldwin County Heritage Museum 6th Annual Golf Scramble will be held at GlenLakes Golf Club on Thursday, February 15, with registration at 8 am and the shotgun start at 9 am. We encourage early registration as the number of golfers is limited to 144. The fee will be \$60/golfer which gives you a cart, 18 holes of golf, range balls, lunch and prizes. There is a \$10,000 Hole-In-One prize as well as other Special Events. We also offer individual Hole Sponsorships (\$100) and Corporate Sponsorships (\$1,000). Please contact Tammy at 251-986-8375 OR bchm@gulftel.com for more information and registration forms.

St. Thomas By The Sea fish-frys start Jan. 5

The Knights of Columbus of St Thomas by the Sea will start their annual fish fry on Friday, January 5, and it will run through March 9, 2018. The fish fry will be from 4PM to 6PM each Friday at the Parish Center in the rear of the church. Proceeds from the fish fry are used by the Knights to help support various charities in the local area during Christmas. Plates are \$10/person. In addition to the dinner, there will be a 50/50 drawing each week. St Thomas is located at 26547 Perdido Beach Blvd in Orange Beach. See you there.

Wed. Snowbird Dinner Dances at Cove

The Cove Bar & Grill in Gulf Shores is hosting Snowbird dinner dances every Wednesday night from 6-9 p.m., with live music provided by Ron, Burt and Marvin. The Cove Bar and Grill is located at 131 Cove Ave. For more info, call 251-968-5353, 859-380-2281 or email rgnessler@twc.com.

Beach Club Craft Fair Feb. 24

The Beach Club snowbirds are having their annual Art and Craft Fair on Saturday February 24 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Island Room on the Beach Club complex. There will be a variety of crafts, pine needle baskets, art work, clay work, jewelry and much more. The cost of a table(with cover) is \$15. All table rental proceeds goes to the Ft. Morgan Volunteer Fire Dept. For more information call Marie 314-805-2370 or 251-540-0512. The Beach Club is located 11miles west of hwy 59 on Hwy180 (Ft. Morgan Rd.).

Lighthouse Craft Shows Feb. 20

The lighthouse craft show will take place on Feb 20 this winter. 455 E. Beach Road, Gulf Shores. 9-11:30 am. Please use center elevator to second floor. Many handmade crafts. Scarves, jewelry, shell art, and cards and many more.

Retired Law Enforcement Lunch

The annual Snowbird Retired Law Enforcement luncheon will be held on Feb. 21 at noon at American Legion Post 44, 6781 State Hwy. 59, Gulf Shores, AL. All retired and former law enforcement offi-

cers and their spouses are invited. Jim MacMeekin, a retired Michigan Prison Administrator, will speak about Michigan Prisons. Please contact Tom Westgate at 269.252.7029 so we can give the Legion a count. You may order off the menu-lunch on your own.

Plantation Resort Church

The Plantation Resort church service every Sunday morning at 9am. Bldg.#4 Conference Room. Running now through Easter Sunday, non denominational, everyone welcome! For more information call Kent Gerber, Chaplain, at 336-529-2372.



GRAND POINTE SNOWBIRD CRAFTERS: This group of snowbirds at Grand Pointe enjoy crafting together. This week's project was wreath making. Several of the ladies will have jewelry and crafts in a craft show at Grand Pointe on Tuesday, February 15 from 9-1. The show is open to the public.

FOLEY'S WELCOME SNOWBIRD COFFEE

Foley's Welcome Coffee for winter visitors was another resounding success, as hundreds of visitors discovered things to see and do in the Foley area. Patrons collected coupons and participated in a treasure hunt for incredible prizes! More Info: VisitFoley.com)



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ALABAMA LIFESTYLE EXPO

**Thurs., Feb. 8th, 2018
8am-2pm**

**At The Caribe Resort
Exhibition Halls
Orange Beach, AL.**

**This EXPO offers
information about:**

- Living in Alabama
- Hot Travel Destinations
- Health Screenings
- Real-Estate Information
- Retirement Communities
- Chiropractic & Wellness Centers
- Hearing Consultants
- Recreational Vehicle Parks
- Clothing & Accessories
- Places to Visit
- Cosmetic Consultants
- Health Products
- Recreation Activities
- Food & Restaurant Vendors

Also:

- Free Admission
- Ample Parking
- Passenger Drop Off
- Cash Drawings
- Give Aways Galore

**For Expo Vendor Info,
Call Bill Meadows at
205-222-2862**

**The Alabama Advantage
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THANK YOU

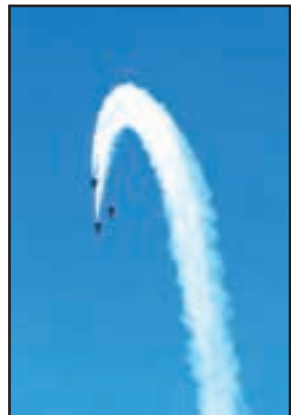
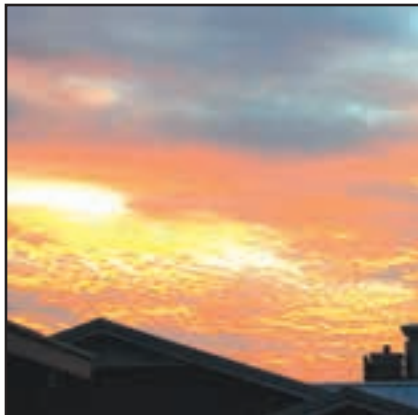
**PUBLIX SUPER MARKETS,
VENDORS, AND WINTER VISITORS**

**The 2017 Alabama Lifestyles EXPO
Was Our Best Expo To Date!**

With A Record 4,000-Plus Attendance

Email your shots to mulletwrapper@gulftel.com

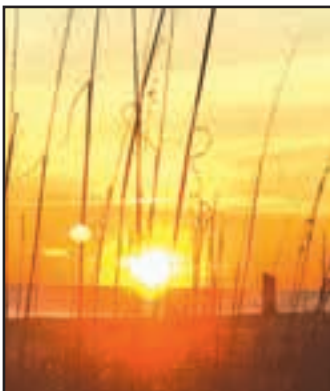
PICTURES OF THE WEEK



Dan Beenen of Fruitland, Iowa shares more pictures showcasing why we love it here.



Misty White shares Christmas Day pictures from the beach.



"Reflecting Christmas Tree" submitted by Steve Ward.

Coming to a Welcome Center Near You. Lecture & Demonstration Series Jan 15 - Feb 28

Pick up a detailed schedule at the Gulf Shores or Orange Beach Welcome Center, or download the schedule online at GulfShores.com/WelcomeCenters. Admission is free.



**GULF SHORES &
ORANGE BEACH**

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Gulf Shores Welcome Center
3459 Gulf Shores Pkwy.
Open Daily

Orange Beach Welcome Center
23685 Perdido Beach Blvd.
Open Daily

Presented by
Gulf Shores & Orange Beach Tourism

Funny Bones

By George Ridder



This one is from our good pal Pete Hourihan of Orange Beach...

The City's largest Charitable Organization realized that it had never received a donation from the city's most successful lawyer. So a volunteer paid the lawyer a visit in his lavish office. The volunteer opened the meeting

by saying, "Our research shows that even though our annual income is over two million dollars, you don't give a penny to charity. Wouldn't you like to give something back to your community?"

The lawyer thinks for a minute and says, "First, did your research also show you that my mother is dying after a long painful illness, and she has huge medical bills that are far beyond her ability to pay?"

Embarrassed, the rep mumbles, "Uh... No, I didn't know that."

"Secondly," says the lawyer, "did it show that my brother, a disabled Veteran, is blind and confined to a wheelchair and is unable to support his wife and six children?"

The stricken rep begins to stammer an apology, but is cut off again.

"Thirdly, did your research also show you that my sister's husband died in a dreadful car accident, leaving her penniless with a mortgage and three children, one of whom is disabled and another that has learning disabilities requiring an array of private tutors?"

The humiliated rep, completely beaten, says, "I'm so sorry. I had no idea."

So the lawyer says, "So, if I didn't give any money to them, what makes you think I'd give any to you?"

Wife: "I wish I were Juliet, and I had a Romeo..."

Husband: "If you would have been Juliet, I don't think Romeo would've chosen to die."

A man walks into a bar and says, "Give me a beer before the problems start!"

He drinks the beer and then orders another saying, "Give me a beer before the problems start!"

The bartender looks confused but gives him another beer.

This goes on for a while, and after the fifth beer the bartender is totally confused and asks the man, "When are you going to pay for these beers?"

The man answers, "Now the problems start!"

Sergeant: "Private, I think the enemy soldiers are hiding in the woods. I want you to go in there and flush them out for us." Private: "Yes, sir! But if you see a bunch of guys running out the woods, don't shoot the one in front!"

A husband died. A few weeks later the wife died. As she got to heaven she saw her husband. She ran up to him with tears in her eyes.

"Darling, how I've missed you!"

The husband extends his arms stopping her from embracing him and says, "Whoa there woman, the contract was until death!"

A man walks into a shoe store and tries on a pair of shoes. "How do they feel?" asks the sales clerk. "Well they feel a bit tight," replies the man.

The assistant promptly bends down and has a look at the shoes

and at the man's feet. "Try pulling the tongue out," the clerk says. "Well, theyth sthilla feelth a bith tightth."

A 60 year old millionaire is getting married and throws a big wedding reception. His friends are quite jealous and in a quiet moment one of them asks him how did he land such a hot 23 year old beauty.

"Simple," grins the millionaire, "I faked my age."

His friends are really amazed and ask him how much he said.

"Well," he replied, "I said I was 87!"

Two women, who are dog owners, are arguing which dog is smarter.

First woman: "My dog is so smart. Every morning he waits for the paperboy to come around and then he takes a newspaper and brings it to me."

Second woman: "I know."

First one: "How?"

Second one: "My dog told me."

The real meaning of hotel slogans...

- Old world charm: No bath
- Options galore: Nothing is included in the itinerary
- No extra fees: No extras
- Nominal fee: Outrageous charge
- Standard: Sub-standard
- Deluxe: Standard
- Superior: One free shower cap
- Cozy: Small
- All the amenities: Two free shower caps

- Plush: Top and bottom sheets
I was playing badminton. So I took some classes and they are paying off.

Now, I play goodminton.

Excuse me," a young fellow said to an older man, "I've just moved here and I wonder if this town has any criminal lawyers?"

"Well," replied the older man, "I have lived here all my life and all I can tell you is we are pretty sure we do, but no one has been able to prove it yet."

A husband comes in from the garage. His wife asks, "What's wrong?"

He replies, "I lost something. I thought I had put it somewhere safe in the garage."

"How many safe places are there in the garage?" she asks.

"Clearly one more than I can remember."

From a passenger ship one can see a bearded man on a small island who is shouting and desperately waving his hands. "Who is it?" a passenger asks the captain.

"I have no idea. Every year when we pass, he goes mad like that."

- A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Linoleum Blown apart.

- Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.

St. Charles Place

Best Mardi Gras Selection On The Island!

FREEBIES FOR ANYONE WHO MAKES A PURCHASE!

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ONCE AGAIN! VOTED BEST GIFT SHOP 13 YEARS IN A ROW!

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR RENT

DOWNTOWN ORANGE BEACH

Clean mobile home in Orange Beach on Canal Road about 1 mile from Wharf and 1 mile from Beach. No dogs. No drugs. \$690/mo. Text 251-752-0385.

SNOWBIRD RENTAL

Snowbird rental available Mid-October to Mid-April 2019, pet friendly cottage, Orange Beach, \$1050/month. Leave message; 251-609-0611.

2019 WINTER GUESTS

Looking for 2019 winter guests; 1 bedroom, 2 bath Phoenix VI Unit 907; \$1300 month; plus taxes & fees; 2 bedroom, 2 bath Gulf House Unit 605; \$1600/month plus taxes & fees; 3 bedroom, 2 bath The Palms Unit 5123, \$2500/month plus taxes 7 fees; 4 bedroom, 4 bath Admiral's Quarters, 1201, \$3520/month plus taxes & fees; Call Alabama Coastal Properties Inc. at 251-974-4000 to view & book.

LIGHTHOUSE WINTER RENTAL

Lighthouse condo available for February & part of March. Know a friend or family member wanting to try Gulf Shores for a shorter rental? Looking for next year for a new place? 2018 rates of \$175 per day for less than 30 days or \$80 per day for over 30 days. Both plus cleaning, tax & car passes (ends March 9th). It is a gulf-front, 3rd floor walk-in unit, 2 bedroom w/bunkroom, 2 baths. Great amenities! (270) 836-3879 or (270) 999-5140.

PHOENIX X WINTER RENTAL

Phoenix X condo available for February & part of March. Know a friend or family member wanting to try Orange Beach for a shorter rental? Looking for next year for a new place? 2018 rates of \$175 per day for less than 30 days or \$80 per day for over 30 days. Both plus cleaning, tax & car passes (ends March 9th).

It is a gulf-front, 6th floor, 3 bedroom, 2 baths. Lots of amenities! (270) 836-3879 or (270) 999-5140.

GULF FRONT-REDUCED RENT

Reduced rent for brand new Gulf front: outstanding views of sunsets from this 19th floor corner condo on the west end! Indoor pool, hot tubs and fitness room. All furnishings and stainless steel appliances are brand new and there is a wet bar. Go to www.liquidlifestylevacationrentals.com. For City select Gulf Shores and for Resort select Phoenix Gulf Shores to view 26 int/ext pictures of our condo. Contact jeffwarnerbrown@gmail.com for more info.

ATTENTION SENIORS

Attn:Seniors 1 bedroom for lease in Gulf Shores. Roomy Island Style Cottage apt in downtown Gulf Shores, on the Intercoastal Waterway! Near park, restaurants, and churches. Just a few blocks from Acme Oyster House. No dogs, no smoking. All utilities included. 55+ older only. Only

\$690/mo. Text 251-284-1025.

GULF SHORES 2BR

Roomy 2br townhome next to Acme Oyster House and Tacky Jacks! Includes all utilities except electric. \$890. No dogs, no smoking. Text 251-752-0381 if you think you qualify.

COUNTRY CROSSROADS

Country Crossroads, Elberta; Great 1 bedroom mobile home available now in a senior community! Has a covered deck, nice landscaping, concrete driveway! This is a 55+ ONLY property. Rent includes All Utilities. Lawn service provided free of charge. Nice and quiet here. Community features a clubhouse, catfish pond, nice neighbors, street lamps, and concrete roads. Nice place! \$590 per month. No Dogs. Background checks apply. Text 251-284-1025.

RETIREMENT PARK RV SITE

Attn. Seniors. RV site in Retirement Park. Located in Country Crossroads Retirement Community! This is a 55+ only park. All utilities are included. Clubhouse, catfish pond, concrete roads, street lamps, nice neighbors. Bring your RV here. \$350 per month. Call 251-955-2168 and leave a message.

RV LOT NEAR GULF SHORES

RV Lot Between Foley and Gulf Shores; RV Lot - Lot only. All Utilities are included. \$350 per month. Text 251-752-0381.

RETAIL OR OFFICE

Café / Shop / Retail / Office space in downtown Gulf Shores. Uptown Plaza on East 20th Ave. 2400SE. Nice space, and very nice property. Available now. Text 251-747-0097.

HIGHWAY 59 FRONTAGE LOT

Highway 59 Frontage Lot. Just north of Beach Express, just north of Foley. 220' frontage. Approx 2 acres. \$800 per month. No improvements...lot only. 251-747-0097.

FOR SALE

THE GROVE

The Grove is Foley's Premier 55+ Community for Active Lifestyles. New 3Bd/2Ba Manufactured Homes with prices starting in the \$90's or custom build your retirement dream in this beautiful gated community. Enjoy the Clubhouse, Pool, Jacuzzi, Activities. Minutes from b/aches. www.thefoleygrove.com or 251-971-1033.

TERRY COVE HARBOR

3 bedrooms, 2 baths one-level home is located in Terry Cove Harbor. A sought-after subdivision located in the heart of Orange Beach; amenities include boat launch, boat storage, pool, tennis and basketball courts and a children's playground. 5 minutes from parks, recreation center, community pool and schools. New golf cart with acceptable offer; Mary Cain Fowler, Bella Beach Properties, mary@bellabeachproperties.com or 251-752-7015.

NEAR SOLDIERS CREEK

Near Soldiers Creek and Pirates Cove, Estate size building lot. Available now. Nice trees. Restricted. Very convenient to Foley or Pensacola, or beaches. Nearly 1 acre. All

utilities available. \$220 per month! Easy financing with \$500 down, 8% interest, \$28,900. 2 lots available. Hosteeva Realty. Text 251-747-0097.

NORTH OF GULF SHORES

North of Gulf Shores; Nice Lot. Owner Financing. Very large lot suitable for mobile home, new home, or RV. OK for 2 homes!!! Septic tank included. \$59,900. Seller will finance with \$1000 down, 8% interest. No credit check. Hosteeva Realty Text 251-422-8718.

SILVERHILL LOT

Silverhill - Building lot. Real nice neighborhood. Big lot. Nice trees. All utilities available at the street. Perfect location on south side of Silverhill. Easy commute to Foley or Fairhope. Great school in Silverhill. Easy financing with \$500 down, \$19,900. \$148 per month. 8% fixed interest. 2 lots available side by side. Hosteeva Realty. TEXT 251Boat Club membership for sale. \$2500.00 sale price reflects huge discount. Reciprocal boat usage at over 120 locations. Club provides all training and maintenance on all vessels. Seller will pay transfer fee. Call or text 256-348-6130.

ELBERTA - LAND

Elberta - Land. Beautiful property. 7 Acres. Nice farmland. No wetlands - good soils. Paved road frontage. Near Pirates Cove. Owner financing available with \$1000 down. Hosteeva Realty. TEXT 251-422-8718.

RV LOT AT OWA

RV Lot at OWA. Under construction now. Resort RV lots For Sale. Directly across from OWA on County Road 20. Owner Financing Available.

MISCELLANEOUS

DINING SET

For Sale; Dining Set table with pads; 2 leaves, tea cart & china cabinet; \$400; bankers rack - \$90; call 850-492-5837.

SERVICES

DIVERSIFIED CLEANING

Diversified Cleaning Service of 25 years; A+ with Better Business Bureau serving Escambia, Baldwin Counties; residential, commercial, carpets, upholstery, pressure washing & windows. Lowest prices around due to low overhead (compared to big services). Call or text 850-712-7191. (12/22)

ALONZO CARICATURES

Caricatures By Alonzo; for distinctive special occasions from private parties to conventions; \$150 for two hours of drawing caricatures that make perfect party keepsakes for all the guests; 251-981-2072.

GUITAR LESSONS

By appointment at our Orange Beach recording studio; 25823 Canal Rd. in Orange Beach; call Top Hat; 251-609-7907; also demo recording and cd duplication.

PERSONAL TRAINER

World record holder weight lifter and local resident Betty Lafferty; your home or gym; specializing in senior fitness; 251-978-0474.

LEARN MOSAIC FOR \$15

Learn to do your own Mosaic project from start to finish. Only \$15 per hour. No more than two people per class; Connie at 850-503-2127.

CUSTOM HOLSTERS

Concealed Carry Solutions; Kydex Holsters custom fitted to your gun; Call Ken Lambert; 251-965-7590.

HELP WANTED

BARBACK

Barback needed: Weekend nights 9 p.m. - 2 a.m.; assist bartender, fill ice bins, restock, clean up as needed; friendly, local bar; serious inquiries only; call and leave a name and phone number, 251-978-3039.

BARTENDER

Snapper's Lounge; Bartender Needed.; Apply within; 25637 Canal Road in Wolf Plaza Shopping Center, Orange Beach,

MASSAGE THERAPIST

Massage therapist needed for Eden Spa & Salon; Call 251-981-8600 and ask for Pam.

HAIR STYLIST

If providing guests with an experience that exceeds their expectations is your thing, then we need you now! full/part time Experienced, Team player.. call 850-449-3995.

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HAPPY 5TH ANNIVERSARY!!

**Tuesday, February 6th &
Wednesday, February 7th, 2018**
GAMES, door prizes & FUN For Everyone!

*50% OFF BREAKFAST ENTREES both days !!
50% OFF DINNER ENTREES ALL DAY both days !!*

LIVE MUSIC 2-5 PM

Tuesday Hot Sand 2.0

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SASSY BASS PRE-SUPER BOWL PARTY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH • 2-5 PM

LIVE MUSIC WITH COCONUT RADIO

FRESH MADE PIZZA UNTIL 8:00 PM

FOR PIZZA HUNGRY PARTIERS

PIZZA BY THE SLICE - CHEESE 3.00; PEPPERONI 3.25

PLUS

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