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INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS



Miss Firecracker Contest part of 'Bama's July 4 celebration

Celebrate Independence Day at the Flora-Bama with an All American BBQ and watch some ladies compete for the title of Miss Firecracker, the final contest before the Labor Day extravaganza where one lucky winner will be crowned Miss Flora-Bama 2019. The winner of Miss Flora-Bama 2019 will take home prizes valued at around \$5000, and winners of the Miss Firecracker Bikini Contest will be eligible to compete for that grand prize Labor Day weekend. The contest will be held on Thursday, July 4 at 3 p.m. in the 'Bama Big Tent. Sign ups will begin at noon in front of the tent. The Flora-Bama is, of course, located directly on the Gulf of Mexico at the Florida-Alabama state line.



Youth Reach Gulf Coast hosts July 4 open house & pig roast

Youth-Reach Gulf Coast will host its annual July 4 pig roast, open house and fireworks show beginning at 5 p.m. Other activities include family-friendly games (Zero-Turn Lawnmower Race, Hot Dog/Pie Eating Contest, Mullet Toss), and a bounce house and water slide. Tours of our 81-acre campus will be available along with a chance to meet the staff and residents. Bring a friend and enjoy a great 4th of July celebration while experiencing the heart of Youth-Reach Gulf Coast.

Youth-Reach Gulf Coast is a non-profit Christ-centered home set on a beautiful 81-acre campus east of Summerdale. The program is designed to remold the values and turn around the lives of at-risk young men, ages 18-22. Founded in 1984 by Curt Williams, the program's focuses on structure and a balanced family and home life. Youth-Reach concentrates on developing character, responsibility and a strong work ethic. Facilitated by respected counselors, it is a long-term program intended to heal past wounds and restore families. Call (251) 967-4809 or visit youthreachgc.org or more info.

Bear Point Civic Assn. BBQ on the bay July 6

The Bear Point Civic Association will an old fashioned Independence Day BBQ on Saturday July 6 from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the BPCA's park on Bay La Launch Ave. in Orange Beach. The entire community is invited to join assn. members for a fun afternoon on the bay.

Feel free to bring a lawn chair and cooler and enjoy the sounds of The Doc Johnson Band from noon until 3 p.m. An umbrella or small canopy may also be appropriate, depending on the weather.

BBQ plates will be \$8 (BBQ Sandwich with two sides). Drinks will be \$1 each. The BPCA will also pre-sell whole pork butts for \$40. To purchase a whole pork butt, send an email to samspencer@bearpointca.com. You will receive a confirmation email of your pre-sell and pay on July 6 by cash or check.

Festivities also include a BPCA member bake sale organized by Tara Nichols and Cathey Olive. For more info, visit bearpoint.org. The BPCA clubhouse is on the water adjacent to Flipper's Restaurant on Bay La Launch Ave.

July 4 in Lillian includes flag raising ceremony

July 4 events at the Lillian Community Club begin at 10:45 a.m. with the flag raising ceremony led by members of American Legion Post #48. Col. George's Famous Fried Chicken is on the menu from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 for adults. Other events during the day include music by Big Jake in the hall from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., a raffle for a Wagon of Surprises, a silent auction and a 50/50 drawing. The Lillian Community Club is located at 34148 Widell Ave. For more information call 251-962-3366.

Fireworks part of July 4 fun at Foley's OWA

Locals and vacationers alike will be celebrating Independence Day (July 4) at OWA with family-friendly activities, live entertainment throughout the property, and a spectacular fireworks show at 8:45 p.m. Celebrate with a fun day in the streets of admission-free Downtown OWA. Grab a delicious lunch, enjoy our live performances, dance to GLOWA at night, then sit back and enjoy a fireworks show. GLOWA shows are at 8 p.m. and 9:05 p.m. on July 4 at the main OWA fountain. GLOWA is a nighttime block party bash. Enjoy hit songs, fun lights, and a one-of-a-kind fountain show. OWA is located at 1501 South OWA Blvd. in Foley. For more info, call (251) 923-2111 or go to visitowa.com.

July 4 BBQ & music at Fairhope Legion

American Legion Post 199 in Fairhope will serve BBQ and open up the beach for a fireworks party during its annual July 4 celebration. Legion chefs will begin serving BBQ plates of pork and chicken with all the fixins' at 10:30 a.m. and continue until the food runs out. And

it always does. Pulled pork or half a chicken BBQ plate tickets are \$12.

Refreshments will be available Gravity Brakes will play on the Legion Beach stage from 11 a.m. 'til 3 p.m. And Redfiled will play from 4-8 p.m. Other beach activities include horseshoes, swimming, volleyball and fishing from the Legion pier. The Ladies Auxiliary will be holding a bake sale and a fire bit raffle will raise funds to remodel the Tiki Bar deck. The public is always welcome at the Legion, located in a historic building on the Mobile Bay bluffs at 700 S. Mobile St. Bring chairs, sunscreen and bug spray, but no coolers please. For more info, call 251-928-9132.

July 4 fireworks slated in downtown Pensacola

The Sertoma Club 4th of July Celebration in Pensacola will include the largest fireworks display on the Gulf Coast over Pensacola Bay at 9 p.m. There will be free activities throughout the day, from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. in Seville Square.

There will also be a variety of vendors, and live entertainment adjacent to Wahoo Stadium Bayfront stage from the Not Quite Fab at 4:30. and Still Standing (A Tribute to Elton John) from 6:30pm to fireworks. Most food vendors will stay open until 9 pm.

A Hot Dog Eating Contest begins promptly at noon, and the Sparks & Stars performance from the Pensacola Symphony Orchestra at the Hunter Amphitheater in Vince Whibbs Community Maritime Park at 7:30 pm.

The festivities will culminate with an amazing fireworks show over Pensacola Bay at 9 pm, perfectly synchronized with music broadcast on CatCountry 98.7.

Free July 4 BBQ at Foley American Legion

American Legion Post 99 in Foley will be offering free pulled pork sandwiches and plates with side orders on July 4 beginning at noon and continuing until the food is gone.

Crossfire Band will play in the Legion hall from 2-6 p.m. Post 99 is located at 2101 S. McKenzie St. (Hwy. 59) in Foley. For more info, call 251-943-3114.

Magnolia Springs hosts July 4 Parade & Picnic

Magnolia Springs will celebrate the Fourth of July with an old fashioned patriotic parade immediately followed by a picnic with free hot dogs, watermelon and beverages. The parade line-up on Woodland Dr. starts at 10 a.m. The parade starts at 10:30 a.m. and will proceed along Oak St. and end at the Town Green. Everyone is welcome to decorate bikes, cars, tractors and floats and participate in the annual event.

Post parade family activities on the Magnolia Beach Fire Dept. grounds will also include children's games, a hot dog lunch and watermelon served by the town council. For more info, call 251-965-9888.



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INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS



July 4 fireworks shoot from GSP Fishing Pier

The City of Gulf Shores will celebrate the Fourth of July with a stunning fireworks display, beginning at 9 p.m. on Thursday, July 4. Fireworks will be shot from the Gulf State Park Fishing Pier.

Fireworks will be shot from the southern end of the 1500 foot fishing pier, leaving Gulf State Park, Gulf Shores Public Beach and surrounding areas as ideal locations for spectators.

The timeline of public access to the Gulf State Park Pier on Thursday, July 4, is as follows: - 6:00 a.m.: The Gulf State Park Pier will close to the public for firework setup. - 12:00 p.m.: The pier will reopen to the general to a point beyond the bath house, maintaining a distance from the fireworks setup. - 6:00 p.m.: The Fire Marshal will close the pier for the fireworks show. For more info, call 251-968-1174 or visit gulfshoresal.gov.



July 4 in Fairhope includes Baldwin Pops & fireworks

The Baldwin Pops Band will play a Fourth of July Concert on the Fairhope bluffs before the fireworks display on Thursday, July 4 at Henry George Park and the Fairhope Municipal Pier Park.

The Baldwin Pops Band Independence Day Concert begins at 7 p.m. on top of the bluff. The band will perform a variety of patriotic tunes before and during the fireworks display. Fireworks begin at dusk, approximately 9 p.m.

The north end of Fairhope Pier Park, along the beach, will be open throughout the day and will remain open while parking is available. Limited handicap parking will be available near the fountain. It is an alcohol-free event. Several food vendors will be located near the south beach area. For more info, call 251-929-1466.



July 4 Fireworks in Robertsdale

Independence Day Fireworks hosted by the City of Robertsdale will start at 9 p.m. on July 4 at Garrett Park, located at 18080 Pennsylvania St. (251-947-8900).

Robertsdale officials will also dedicate the renovated Honeybee Park on Independence Day, July 4 at 4 p.m. An ice cream social in the new park pavilion will follow.

Pat Crumby July 4 Day Dance in Loxley

Roger & Elaine Beasley will entertain during the Pat Crumby Independence Day Dance on July 4 from 2 - 5 p.m. at the Loxley Civic Center.

Cost is \$10 per person at the door payable by cash or check. Attendees may bring their own beverages and snacks. Suggested attire is patriotic colors of red, white or blue.

Music selections include favorite tunes from the 50s, 60s & 70s suitable for ballroom dancing, swing, freestyle & some line dances, too.

Ms. Crumby started the summer holiday dances several years ago & Denise Blanda has graciously taken time and talent to continue hosting the series of events. For The Loxley Civic Center is located at 4198 Municipal Park Drive.

Artworks anniversary is July 6

Artworks Art Gallery on Perdido Key will host a July 6 Happy Independence Day 12th anniversary party from 4-8 p.m. Artworks is a permanent drop-off site for 325 Zero Hunger which works to help end hunger in our schools. Bring your favorite beverage and enjoy live music, munchies and art. It's always great at Artworks.

July 4 Shark Run at Bama

The Flora-Bama Lounge & Oyster Bar will host The Shark Adventure Run, which includes a 4.5 mile road & beach race and one mile beach fun run, on Thursday, July 4 beginning at 7 a.m. sharp. The event also includes a four mile road race & competitive walk. And a 7:15 a.m. one mile fun run. The race starts and finishes directly on the Gulf at the FL-AL state line. The Shark Run winners will be awarded from those finishing the race without losing their tags to sharks along the course.

Perdido Beach Resort July 4 BBQ includes music and fireworks

Perdido Beach Resort will once again celebrate our nation's independence by hosting its annual fireworks gala and barbeque on Thursday, July 4 on the hotel beach decks overlooking the beach and Perdido Pass in Orange Beach. The annual event includes an all-American beachside barbeque, live music featuring The Mixed Nuts, cash bars, and the largest ever star-spangled fireworks show from the beach. Live music, cash bars, and general seating for the main event start at 6 p.m. Thursday on the resort's beach decks. The barbeque will feature multiple salad offerings, barbeque ribs, Boston Butt, beef brisket and barbeque chicken along with a variety of side dishes and desserts. The largest fireworks show in the history of the resort will light up the sky over the Gulf of Mexico at dusk (approximately 9:00 p.m.) from the resort's beach. Following the fireworks extravaganza, the Mixed Nuts will be moving to the Perdido Beach Resort's Ballroom to entertain guests until 2 a.m.

For non-hotel guests, wrist bands must be purchased in advance from the hotel Concierge (Ext 103). For hotel reservations and information, call Perdido Beach Resort reservations at 251-981-9811. A schedule can be viewed at perdidobeachresort.com.

Parking for non-hotel guests attending the concert, fireworks, and barbeque will be on a first-come basis in the parking lot directly across from the resort on the north side of Highway 182.

The hotel will be hosting a number of events throughout Independence weekend. Beginning on Friday, July 5 at 10 a.m., guests are welcome to take part in a variety of activities including a watermelon eating contest, Bingo and a dive-in movie that evening. Saturday events to include Independence Day arts and crafts, boogie board races, cookie decorating and a sunset crab hunt.

Advance purchase for the gala celebration, which includes the barbeque buffet dinner, concert by the Mixed Nuts and fireworks, is recommended since availability cannot be guaranteed on the day of the event. Ticket prices are \$37 for adults and \$15 for children under 12; excluding tax. Children 4 and under are admitted free of charge. Voyagers will also be open and serving guests that evening.

Perdido Ecumenical Choir summer concert July 7 at Holy Spirit

The The Perdido Ecumenical Choir will present its annual summer concert on July 7 at 3 p.m. at the Catholic Church of the Holy Spirit, 10650 Gulf Beach Highway. This year's event is a mix of some patriotic songs and some popular music. Patriotic selections include America; God Bless the USA and Battle Hymn of the Republic, and pop songs range from a John Denver medley to Dust in the Wind by Kansas; and more.

The concert is free and open to the public.

The Perdido Ecumenical Choir includes singers from several of the area churches.

Street Party & fireworks July 6 at The Wharf in Orange Beach

The Wharf in Orange Beach will celebrate the our great nation's birthday with an Independence Day Street Party, on Saturday, July 6 from 5-9 p.m.. Fireworks begin at 8:45 p.m. an admission is free. The party will include oodles of activities for the whole family to enjoy including a surf simulator, interactive arena, and The Wharf's famous bubble zone. face painting, a trampoline jumpee, camel rides and a petting zoo.

The kid-friendly activities are sponsored by Christian Life The Island Church. American flags will be passed out to wave when the sun sets, and the palm trees at the Orange Beach complex will sparkle a patriotic theme of red, white, and blue! Set up shop on Main Street for the perfect fireworks viewing spot presented by Columbia Southern University. Stay for a little while longer to see the patriotic Spectra Sound and Light Show!

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BLUE MARLIN GRAND CHAMPIONSHIP JULY 10-13 AT THE WHARF

So, what makes the Blue Marlin Grand Championship of the Gulf such a special event?

That would be the over-the-top weigh-in experience appropriately billed as "the greatest show in sportfishing," and the possibility of seeing a state record fish, as happened in 2013 when Chris Ferrara (with Capt. Mike Roberto) brought home a 845.8 blue marlin on The Reel Fire.

Recognized as one of the Top 20 events in the Southeast, the BMGC will be held July 10-13 at The Wharf.

Thursday Boat Parade

The tourney's participating boats leave the docks at The Wharf Marina at 11 a.m. on July 11 for the start of the tournament. The public is invited to witness the boats heading out to sea past Canal Road, a prime viewing point for the general public to see the boats parading in anticipation of the tourney's total cash prize purse of \$1 million plus.

Weigh-Ins Fri. & Sat.

The tourney weigh-in officially opens on Friday, July 12 at 5

p.m. So any marlin that were caught during the first day of fishing will come in Friday evening. The big show occurs on Saturday, as the fleet returns from fishing and to weigh their catches. Last year an estimated 15,000 spectators turned out to enjoy the spectacle and The Wharf's many other amenities.

O.B. boat won in 2018

The crew of Shock Wave will never be superstitious about Friday the 13th again. The Orange Beach team brought a 795.2-pound blue marlin to the scales Friday, July 13 to win the 2018 Blue Marlin Grand Championship and earn the team a payout of \$371,250.

Brien Blakeney is the owner of the 64 Viking and his son, Austin, was the angler who whipped the trophy-winning catch. Captain Marco Gaona is the skipper, Lawton Shaffer is the mate and Chris Head was the other angler.

Shock Wave's fish was caught on a live bait and subdued after a 4.5-hour battle on 100-pound test monofilament with a 200-pound test leader.

"It's prestigious to win any tournament, but this was nice to do it here at home with family and friends looking on," Gaona said before Sunday's awards ceremony. "We were fishing against the best teams in the Gulf of Mexico. It makes me happy for the owners for all the effort and expense they put into the sport. It's a very family oriented team."

Wireman Sets A Record

The Pleasure Island based Carib set a new BMGC tournament record when Larry Wireman muscled a 192.2-pound yellowfin tuna to the transom in 2018. That fish was worth \$64,575. Nick Pratt (Hauling Away) had the second largest tuna at 185.2 pounds last year.

A St. Jude's Fundraiser

To date, the tournament has raised \$120,000 in donations to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, which is dedicated to finding cures for childhood cancer and other life-threatening diseases. The advances made at St. Jude are saving the lives of children everywhere.



Blue Marlin Grand Championship Schedule

Wednesday July 10:

7 pm: Live music on the Marlin Circle Stage
7 pm: Wharf Street Party and Billfish Boat Show on Main Street
9:30 pm: Kick Off After-Party at the Boat Bar Presented by Tito's Vodka

Thursday July 11:

9-11 am: World Famous Dock Walk
11:01am: Boat departure from The Wharf Marina
11:01am: Orange Beach/Gulf Shores Billfish Boat Parade - Canal Road
5 pm: Sponsor Village Opens in Marlin Circle
5 pm: Billfish Boat Show on Main Street opens

Friday July 12:

5pm: Sponsor Village and Billfish Boat Show opens
6-8pm: Tournament weigh-ins

Saturday July 13:

4pm: Sponsor Village and Billfish Boat Show opens
5-9pm: Tournament weigh-ins
10pm: Announcement of Tournament Champions



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AROUND TOWN

Island Food Pantry open July 13 in Orange Beach

The Island Mobile Food Pantry will be onsite at Christian Life the Island Church in Orange Beach on Saturday, July 13. Part of the church's community outreach ministry, Island Mobile Food Pantry is committed to helping Baldwin County residents who are struggling with food deprivation. To register for the July 13 food pantry, call Lisa Crouse at 251.967.4840.

Each family signed up to participate in the food pantry receives a minimum of 50 pounds of food purchased from Feeding the Gulf Coast food bank. Island Mobile Food Pantry is a ministry of committed to helping Baldwin County residents who are struggling with food deprivation. Each family signed up to participate in the food pantry receives a minimum of 50 pounds of food that is purchased from Feeding the Gulf Coast food bank. Island Mobile Food Pantry is a ministry of. To register for the July 13th food pantry, call Lisa at 251.967.4840. Christian Life the Island Church is located at 25550 Canal Rd. in Orange Beach.

Ft. Morgan evening tours every Tuesday

Historians and Fort Morgan Historic Site staff dressed in period uniform will provide historical insights on various periods of Fort Morgan's History every Tuesday evening through July from 6-8 p.m. at the Ft. Morgan Historic Site, located at the west end of Ft. Morgan Rd. (Hwy. 180), 23 miles west of Hwy. 59 in Gulf Shores. The address is 110 Alabama Hwy 180. Cost is \$10 per person. Historical Interpreters portray soldiers that occupied this fort from various periods and tell about the lives of the soldiers. Demonstrations of small arms drills will occur.

Fall sports registration through July in G.S.

The Gulf Shores Recreation Department will hold registration for youth football, soccer and cheerleading through July. Youth football is open to ages 7-12. Cheerleading is open to children ages 6-12. Youth soccer is open to ages 4-14. The age control date for all sports is August 1, 2019.

Registration fees for all fall leagues are \$70 for members, \$80 for non-members and \$90 for non-members and non-residents. There is a \$10 discount if you

register your child by June 30. Players may register at the Bodenhamer Recreation Center, the Cultural Center or online at gulfshoresal.gov/recreationregistration. Info: 251-968-1421 or visit gulfshoresal.gov/sports.

Bingo Night is back at Foley Library July 12

Bingo Night is back at the Foley Library on July 12 from 5-7:30 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room. Due to limited space, it is requested that patrons phone the library at 251-943-7665 to reserve a seat for these events.

Throw away cards will be used again and markers will be provided for patrons to mark off their called numbers. Please do not bring the daubers used in the larger halls. They bleed through and onto the tables which then require intensive cleanup.

As before, there will be 3 rounds with 5 games per round. Prizes will be awarded to the winners of each game. There will also be prize drawings over the course of the night.

A donation is required to play. Minimum donation for the night would be \$3 for one bingo card per game. Cost is \$6 for two bingo cards per game, and \$9 for three bingo cards per game.

For more info, call (251) 943-1031 or visit foleylibrary.org. The Foley Public Library is located at 319 E. Laurel Ave. (Hwy. 98).

Rascal Flatts w. Jimmie Allen at Wharf Amphitheater July 5

Rascal Flatts Summer will bring its Playlist Tour to the Wharf Amphitheater in Orange Beach on Friday, July 5 at 7 p.m. Special guest is Jimmie Allen.

Tickets are available through Ticketmaster or at the Wharf Amphitheater Box Office.

Flavors of the South Showcase July 18 at Baldwin Coliseum

The Central Baldwin Chamber of Commerce and South Baldwin Regional Medical Center present the 2019 Flavors of the South Food and Wine Showcase at the Baldwin County Coliseum in Robertsdale on July 18 from 5:30 - 8 p.m. The cost is \$30 per ticket with tables seating eight available for \$200. Tickets are available at the Central Baldwin Chamber of Commerce and at the door. For more info, call (251) 947-2626. The Coliseum is located at 19477 Fairground Rd. in Robertsdale.

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End of the Road New Play Fest July 12-14 at SBCT

Tickets are only \$5 including Fri. & Sun. receptions and Sat. ice cream social

By Fran Thompson

The End of the Road New Play Festival returns to South Baldwin Theatre in Gulf Shores for its fifth

"We just want to keep growing it and we want to fill all the seats. These plays deserve an audience."

reincarnation July 12-14 with special \$5 pricing on all tickets.

Friday's 7 p.m. show includes a pre-play reception with hors d'ouvers. Saturday's 7 p.m. show on SBCT's outdoor stage includes an

ice cream social, and the Sunday matinee featuring the 9 short plays includes a post play reception and talkback with the playwrights, actors and directors while the judges convene to select and announce the winners.

Patrons are invited to bring their own food, beverages, folding chairs and blankets for Saturday's outdoor show.

The plays will be performed and directed by local actors, including event producer Laura Pfizenmayer, who will make her debut directing two of the selected plays.

The performances are readings of the plays with minimal props and

stage production – a kind of stripped down theater approach.

"It's funny that the two plays I picked were the hardest to cast, but we had two auditions and it went very well. We have a wonderful mixture of new and old actors," Pfizenmayer said. "That is what makes this so much fun."

A panel of local judges selected the nine winning ten minute plays from more than 150 submissions. Winning plays may have had prior productions but may not be already published. All nine of the winning playwrights will be in attendance.

The short-play, minimum set format for festivals is increasingly popular around the nation, as evidenced by the interest in Pfizenmayer's project from playwrights and actors.

"Every year we get more and more submissions, and this is the first time we've received submissions from

other countries and from people in the military.

"Our little theatre is becoming nationally recognized among play festivals," she added. "And the overall quality of the plays keeps getting better. The plays the committee picked are all amazing. Our format is working really well. We don't want to change that. We just want to keep growing and we want fill all the seats. These plays deserve an audience."

Events such as her short play festival will hopefully inspire the community to get involved in the theater, Pfizenmayer said.

"We have a wonderful theater here. People have supported this, and that's wonderful," Pfizenmayer said.

SBCT is located at 2022 W. 2nd St. in Gulf Shores. For more info, call Pfizenmayer at 803-517-4920.

End Of The Road Fest Selections

• "Thugs In A Pub" by Alex Speer

(Charlotte, NC); directed by Sonya Urquhart.

• "Family By The Numbers" by Arianna Rose (Miami, FL); directed by Jennifer Dawson.

• "Anne Then Some" by Allison Franklin (Chicago, IL); directed by Laura Pfizenmayer.

• "Ordinary Life" by John Meiner (Houston, TX); directed by Frank Lehman.

• "Memento Mori" by Jonathon Cook (Augusta, GA); directed by Robert Gardner

• "The Nice View" by Cynthia Holm (Minneapolis, MN); directed by Jan Hinnen.

• "Jack and Jill" by Tom Sirak (St. Petersburg, FL); directed by Paula Dumas.

• "Bella Napoli" by Steve Gold (Monroe Township, NJ); directed by Laura Pfizenmayer.

• "All the World's A Stage" by Glen Rothe (Gulf Shores, AL); directed by Jennifer Dawson.

Pictured: (l to r) End of the Road playwright Glen Rothe, producer & director Laura Pfizenmayer, End of Road directors Sonya Urquhart, Paula Dumas and Jennifer Dawson, director Jan Hinnen.



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Flora-Bama employees respond quickly to save lives during devastating Perdido fire

By Fran Thompson

The two friends don't normally stop for an omelet across the street at the Waffle House following their evening shifts at the Flora-Bama. But on June 19 they did just that. And there is a good chance that what seemed then like an innocuous decision saved people's lives.

Around 4 a.m. on June 19, a fire engulfed 14 units at Key Harbour, spread to Pescador Landing, where 12 units burnt down and then jumped to a single family home on Ole River in the 17000 block of Perdido Key Drive before firefighters were able to completely distinguish the blaze around 7 a.m.

Robin Lusk (Right), a night manager at the Flora-Bama, and Janice Curtis (Left), a shift lead with the iconic roadhouse's customer service staff, were just leaving the Waffle House when they heard a pop that drew their attention. A second pop definitely came from east of the state line where they saw an inferno already rising above Key Harbour condos.

"At that point, we didn't even say anything to each other. We just both got in our cars and started driving towards the fire," Lusk said.

Both women called 911 on their way. Lusk was the third person to report the fire. But it was still 15 minutes before fire departments could respond.

By the time the women got to Key Harbour, the fire was coming up around them and spreading quickly in the direction of Ole River. One condo was fully on fire. They began to knock on doors.

"Actually, we were banging on the door as hard as we could," Curtis said.

"We just did what came natural. What we would hope anyone would do if we were in that situation," Lusk added.

As residents came out of the condos, they also began helping to evacuate the complex.

Curtis said her main concern at the time was that there were people in the condos that the fire prevented them from getting to.

"It was a terrible feeling wondering if there were people down there who couldn't get out," she said.

Soon after, two waitresses from the Waffle House arrived and started banging on doors at the adjacent Pescador Landing. Two more waitresses from the Flora-Bama and others also helped.

"The noise was unbelievable when we got there," Lusk said. "It was a very loud cracking sound. It was like the fire was alive. It was so hot and unbelievable how fast that fire was moving. It was like the heat was filling the air. It took your breath away."

As Lusk and Curtis went from door to door awakening residents, they were joined by others trying to help.

"The great thing as we started getting people up, they started doing the same thing. It was neighbors helping neighbors. These were all full-time residents, not people renting by the day or week," Lusk said. "They were able to make sure they were all accounted for. They knew who was supposed to be there. At one point there was one woman who was still missing. Everybody was very relieved and there was a lot of kissing, hugging and crying when she appeared down by the water."

By the time firefighters arrived, evacuees and those who responded first stayed to see if they could help.

"There really was no way we could leave anyway, with all the firetrucks and hoses in the area," Lusk said.

"It is still kind of a blur. The fire was growing so fast. I knew some of those folks who lost everything. It really affects you to see something like that."

Escambia County authorities reported only two minor injuries, including an Orange Beach firefighter who was treated for smoke inhalation. The property destroyed was valued at a minimum of \$5 million.

Curtis said she thinks it was divine intervention that put the two friends in a position to help save lives.

"I think God just put us there for a reason," she said. "We were in the right place at the right time to help."

Lusk said she was heartbroken by what people had lost, but that the whole experience has renewed her faith in the goodness inherent in most people and made her proud of community.

"This was about people coming together to help. The community response was immediate. This showed that there are good people all around us."

The Flora-Bama is accepting monetary donations to help the victims of the fire in its gift shop. Perdido Bay United Methodist Church is also accepting donations, as is The Ameri-



can Red Cross, which was on the scene with provisions soon after sunrise.

At least 75 firefighters from various departments including Escambia County, Pensacola, Santa Rosa County, Orange Beach and Lillian responded to the fire.

After sunrise, the women headed home to try to get some sleep before returning to the Flora-Bama for another shift. That proved difficult for both women after what they witnessed. Word had spread about their heroic efforts and they were given a hero's welcome when back at work.

"If my house is on fire I would hope someone would do the same for me, if they could," Curtis said.

"We are not heroes. We just did what we were supposed to do," Lusk said.

Although authorities have not determined where the fire started, media reports have

stated the fire started when an air conditioned caught on fire. There is no doubt that windy conditions and the close proximity of wooden structures to each other contributed to the fire spreading so quickly.

American Red Cross reported that 28 families (40 people) were effected by the fire.

"This is still shocking. Its' still surreal to me," Lusk said a week after the fire. "When you see what happened to these people, you don't know what to say to them. Their lives were forever changed. This caused a lot of grief for a lot of folks."

Lusk added that she was not willing to call it a silver lining to a terrible disaster, but she is proud of the Perdido community.

"You always see on the news that people don't care about each other anymore. But I've seen lots of people pulling together to try to help in our little community," she said.





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AROUND TOWN



"Magnolia or The House at the Head of the River" encore July 12-13 in Foley Play is look at the life of Lower Alabama teen in the mid-1930's

An encore production of "Magnolia or The House at the Head of the River" will be held at the Foley Civic Center July 12-13 at 7 p.m. each evening. Written and directed by Elberta native and Foley High School grad C. Stefan Morrisette, the play premiered at The South Baldwin Community Theatre in Gulf Shores this past March.

The play's protagonist is an elderly woman who returns to her childhood home in Magnolia Springs to celebrate her birthday under the watchful eye of her granddaughter.



Terrell Cowen, now in her 90's (present day) is a frail, yet independent and sassy woman. When she sees that the house she once loved is now a rundown bed and breakfast, her past comes alive and she begins to relive all the highs and lows of her life and the time she spent at the house at the head of the river. She shares her stories

of love, heart break, and all the lessons she learned along the way.

Magnolia's playwright, C. Stefan Morrisette, AKA Chase, was raised in Elberta, where he spent most of his childhood using his imagination to create characters and write stories about them. From there he developed an interest in live theatre.

After graduating from Foley High School, Chase attended the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York, where he focused on musical theatre. He then added study in costume design, designing for Off-Broadway productions before going back to his first love, writing.

Inspired by a trip down the Magnolia River, and dramas from Fairhope's own Fannie Flagg (Fried Green Tomatoes & The Devine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood), Chase penned the first draft of Magnolia in 2010.

He has also collaborated on the indie musical, The Journey, which was performed in Boca Raton, Miami, the New Orleans Fringe Festival and was workshoped in New York. He now resides in Fairhope with his husband, musician Devon Morrisette, and their dogs.

The Foley Civic Center is located at 407 E Laurel Ave. (Hwy. 98). Tickets are available at Epic Lasering, located in Gulf Shores or on-line at eventbrite.com. Tickets are \$15. For ticket info, call 251-923-6737. "Magnolia" is presented by Epic Lasering with Comprehensive Creatives.

Pictured: the Magnolia Cast; writer & director C. Stefan Morrisette, a graduate of Foley High; Cast: Ann Gaylor as Gran Tee, a 90+ sassy, frail, independent, stubborn woman; Kate Lewis as Caroline, Tee's Grand-daughter from Chicago; Andy Burgess as Jason, the owner/operator of The Riverside Bed & Breakfast; Ali Livingston as Terrell, Gran Tee's younger self; Clayton Mosley as Judd, A strapping farm boy and a romantic. Terrell's true love; Ruth Mayo as Michelle Mickey, a tomboy, raised by a single father and Terrell's wild, best friend; Alex Campbell as Nathan, whom Terrell is betrothed; Amber Rose Weaver as Mrs. Cowen; Dillon Broxson as Bobby, Judd's best friends and Mickey's beau.



Gulf Coast Cornhole Series stops at 'Bama on July 20

The Gulf Coast Cornhole Series makes its annual stop at the Flora-Bama Lounge & Package on Perdido Key on Saturday, July 20. This is the ninth year the 'Bama has sponsored the Series, which consists of monthly qualifying tournaments from Ft. Walton Beach to Perdido. The series ends with the September 28 Championship at Windjammers on the Pier Restaurant & Bar in Navarre Beach.

Doubles registration begins at 11 a.m., with play starting at noon in both rookie and masters divisions. A singles tournament begins at 10 a.m., with registration starting at 9:30 a.m.

Win over \$1000 in prizes at qualifying tourneys throughout the series, and accumulate points for the Gulf Coast Cornhole Series championship. Over \$1000 in cash and prizes given away at the final championship tournament, with the champion teams of both divisions also receiving a set of custom boards. For more info, call (850) 232-3086, go to facebook or email gulfcoastcornhole@gmail.com.

Pictured: The Flora-Bama and The Purple Parrot both hosted previous Gulf Coast Cornhole Series on Perdido Key.



Swanky Gala raises \$27,100 for Youth-Reach Gulf Coast

The recent Swanky Gala was a rousing success, raising \$27,100 for Youth-Reach, a residential ministry in Summerdale for young men ages 18-22 who are struggling to overcome addiction and other roadblocks to a productive and happy life. The check was presented by members of The Mystical Order of Aurora, a women's Mardi Gras association and sponsoring organization for this year's event, to David Williams and Caleb Davis of Youth-Reach Gulf Coast during a celebration luncheon at Villaggio Grille at The Wharf.

"This is a huge amount of money for us," said Williams, who has been director at Youth-Reach Gulf Coast since early 2018. "And it says so much about how the community is supporting our ministry. Lives are being changed, physically and spiritually, thanks to the generous donations of so many."

Eva Keesee, President of the Mystical Order of Aurora, praised sponsors for their donations, especially co-host of the event, John McInnis of The Flora-Bama and Youth-Reach board members Jennifer Blanchard and Polly Andrews. Other major sponsors included Ginny Gilbert and Laine Gilbert of Villaggio Grille, caterer for the event; The Wharf, which provided The Port at the Wharf as venue, and Publix of Orange Beach and Bennie Dalzell, its store manager.

"It takes a village, and we have an awesome village," Keesee said.

Donna Stump, chair of the Auroras' charitable committee, thanked the many people who worked to make this year's gala such a success, including dozens of contributors to the live auction and raffle; members of the community who purchased more than 350 tickets to the event; and Auroras' husbands and friends, whose time and talents ensured the fundraiser was one of the best ever on the Gulf Coast.

"Next year will be even better," Keesee promised. "We beat our goal this year, and I am confident that we will do more next year. Youth-Reach is such a worthy cause and has touched our hearts in so many ways."

To learn more or become involved in supporting Youth-Reach Gulf Coast can call (251) 967-4809 or email Info@Youth-Reach.org.

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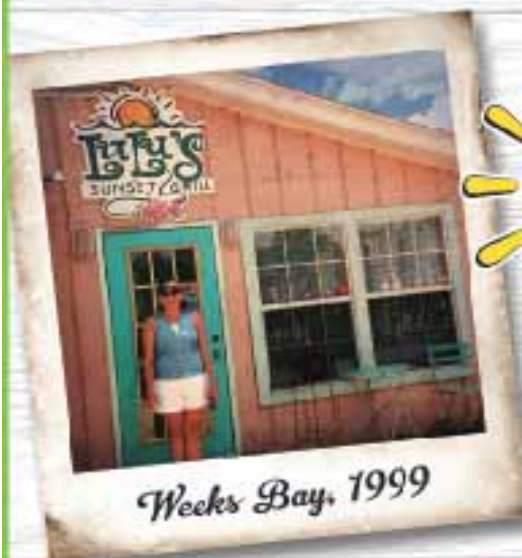
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Funny Bones

By George Ridder



Johnny's father took him on a fishing trip to Canada. On returning home after catching only three fish his father says, "The way I figure it each fish cost us \$400!" Johnny replied, "Well, at that price it's a good thing we didn't catch any more of them than we

did."
Boss: Congratulations! I'm promoting you to manage our Montreal office!
Employee: But sir! There's nothing up there but bar girls and hockey players.
Boss (now insulted): I'll have you know that MY MOTHER is from Montreal!
Employee: No kidding? What hockey team did she play on?

Genie: OK, I'm ready for your third wish.
Me: Third? What about the first two?
Genie: Well, this is a little unusual, but after your first wish, you screamed like a madman and said "I wish I'd never made that wish!" So that counted as your second wish, and I erased your memory of both of them.
Me: Well, OK. I wish I really understood how women think.
Genie: Granted. By the way, that was your first wish, too.

A man sees an ad for a \$50 cruise on Craigslist. Despite his better judgement, he grabs some cash and makes his way to the address given in the ad. He opens the door to a small office and is knocked uncon-

scious from behind. He wakes up tied to a barrel floating in the Atlantic Ocean. "Well, this sucks," he thinks out loud.
A second man floats by, also tied to a barrel. "Tell me about it," the second man replies. "This is worse than last year."
"Boss can I have a week off around Christmas?"
"It's May."
"Sorry. May I have a week off around Christmas?"

.....
I was sitting behind an enthusiastic mom at my son's Little League game. Her boy was pitching for the opposing team and she cheered as he threw wild pitch after wild pitch.
The poor kid walked every batter. It was only the first inning and the score was 12-0. Then one batter finally hit the ball.
"Oh no," the mom wailed.
"There goes his no-hitter."

.....
A man and a woman were smooching on the sofa when the phone rang.
"Who was that?" the guy asked.
"My husband," she replied.
"I better get going then," the guy said. "Where was he when he phoned?"

"You can relax," said the woman. "He's downtown playing poker with you."
A quiet little man was brought before a judge.
"Can you tell me in your own words what happened?" he asked the little man.
"I'm a mathematician dealing in the nature of proof," said the little man.
"Yes, go on," said the astounded judge.

"Well, I was at the library and I found the books I wanted and went to take them out. They told me my library card had expired and I had to get a new one. I went to the registration office and got in another line. I filled out my forms for another card. I got back in line for my card."
"And?" said the judge.
"And the clerk asked me, 'Can you prove you're from New York City?'"
"What happened next?" the judge asked.
"I punched him."

.....
I was observing two men that were working. One would dig a hole and the other would follow behind him and fill the hole in.


After a while I had to ask, "Why do you dig a hole, only to have your partner follow behind and fill it up again?"
The hole digger wiped his brow and sighed. "Well, we're normally a three-person team. But today the lad who plants the trees called in sick."
We all know Albert Einstein was a genius...But his brother Frank was a monster!

.....
"Do you know the new type of knock knock joke that starts with 'no me neither?'"
"No."
"Me neither."

.....
A soccer hooligan is charged with disorderly conduct and assault after a match. The arresting officer states that the accused had thrown something into the river not far from the stadium.
"What exactly did the accused throw into the river?" the judge asks.
"Stones, sir," the officer replies. The judge is confused. "Well, that's hardly an offense, officer."
"It was in this case, sir," the officer explains. "Stones was the name of the referee."




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GULF SHORES CITY COUNCIL

Gulf Shores close to preserving more property on Little Lagoon

By John Mullen

A project first awarded grant money about three years ago to acquire and preserve land on Little Lagoon in Gulf Shores is finally moving forward.

"It was first awarded in 2016 to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources," Environmental and Grants Coordinator Dan Bond said. "The state asked the city to take the project and implement the project. We worked through the agreement with the state and the property owner. It took a while to get here but we're here now and happy to execute the purchase agreement and look toward acquiring the property. Once we acquire it, we will be in the process of restoration and management."

"There's a lot of critical habitat on the property. There is dune habitat as well as wetlands habitat both of which are critical for the lagoon area. We look forward to working with the state and U.S. Fish and Wildlife to restore and protect that property."

Part of that process will be to restore and protect wildlife areas. There are about 53 acres there with 6,100 feet of shoreline on Little Lagoon. The entire project will cost about \$4.4 million and the land is being purchased from and with the help of the Erie Hall Meyer Charitable Fund.

The cash sale price is \$3.4 million and accepting a grant and deed of gift from the Meyer Fund for the balance between the seller's appraised current market value of the property and the 2016 appraised value of the property for a grant \$2.2 million.

At the June 24 regular meeting the Gulf Shores City Council voted to accept and administer the NRDA through the state as well as the contribution from the fund.

"There's a lot of critical habitat on the property," Bond said.

"There is dune habitat as well as wetlands habitat both of which are critical for the lagoon area. We look forward to working with the state and U.S. Fish and Wildlife to restore and protect that property."

There are some public uses planned once the project is complete but they will be designed with those sensitive natural habitats in mind.

"There will be limited, passive public recreation opportunities," Bond said. "We're going to work with local stakeholders and residents in the area to make sure that we are creating something that is a benefit to the area and does not have negative impacts on adjacent properties. But we do want to provide some access to the natural resource. That will probably take the shape of a kayak launch, perhaps a fishing pier of some kind but definitely low-impact recreation."

This could also include a parking area and restrooms, Bond said.

"The property I believe by right could be subdivided into 38 parcels so we feel like this is an opportunity to really protect the natural habitat that's on the property and have something that's going to be an amenity for residents and visitors," he said.

This plan is keeping with an effort in the city to preserve natural areas including the \$8.3 million purchase of a combined 836 acres in Bon Secour and on Oyster Bay with a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant. Two Restore grants coming to the city also have an eye on the environment with a \$5.9 million Little Lagoon Restoration project and the \$9.7 million Gulf Coast Center for Ecotourism and Sustainability planned on city land adjacent to Gulf State Park.

"It's all part of the plan to utilize the funding that resulted from the oil spill and help protect the environment moving forward," Bond said. "We're excited and we've got a lot of work to do now. We've identified our grants and now we're in the process of executing all the grant agreements and getting the funding straight. Now we've got to get to work which is going to be fun."

On the Little Lagoon the project will restore and improve about 2,500 acres of habitat including 1,000 feet of living shoreline, improving connections to the canal system and converting about 200 septic systems and connect them to the city sewer system. It also aims to restore shellfish and marsh areas, conduct ecological research and implement long-term monitoring.

During the meeting, the council also:

- Heard a report from Christie Strategy Group on the recently completed session of the state legislature. The report said positive results for the city included stopping legislation that

would ban cities from banning single-use plastic items, the gasoline tax to improve infrastructure, a local constitutional amendment forming a Baldwin County Beach Express Toll Road Authority and the failure of a bill to disallow city regulation and taxation in police jurisdictions.

- Accepted a final report from Grant, Sanders & Taylor accountants on the auditing of the 2018 fiscal year budget.
- Agreed to add Paula Teipel as a signatory accounts involving the Library Advisory Board. Teipel is replacing Judy Watley as treasurer of the board.
- Approved a contract with Olsen Associates for \$50,000 to perform annual beach survey and report. Annual monitoring and surveying are required by FEMA to maintain reimbursement eligibility.
- Approved installation of stop signs in the Andhurst Walk Subdivision at the request of residents.
- Approved a change order of just under \$10,000 for streetscape grading, median, and sidewalk improvements on beach road to Cunningham DeLaney Construction.
- Approve a change order in sidewalk work from West Lagoon Ave to West Sixth Street. During the project, several additional work items were requested of McElhenney Construction. These additions, along with the final adjustment of unit bid quantities resulted in a final contract amount of nearly \$480,000 after an increase of about \$43,000.
- Approved annexation of a lot owned by Kenneth Higginbotham at 7032 Boggy Branch Lane. The lot is north of County Road 8 and west of State Route 59.
- Passed a resolution of support for the Tri-City Community Foundation and Execute Field of Interest Non-Endowed fund agreement to establish the disaster relief fund.
- Reappointed Mary Wayne Gilmore to the Beautification Board and approved new members David Mayfield as chairman replacing Evelyn Sanders and Matt Lumpkin as a board member replacing Jimmie Van Valkenburg.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING



City of Fairhope celebrating 125th anniversary with a bang

The City of Fairhope is kicking off its 125th anniversary celebration this month with a bang. Founded in 1894 as a single tax colony based on the teachings of Henry George, the town got its name from founders who believed following George's philosophy would give them a "fair hope of success."

After searching several states as possibilities, the founders chose Fairhope and declared November 15, 1894, as "Round-Up Day." For the next several months as the anniversary of that important date approaches, programming at the James P. Nix Center, the Fairhope Public Library and the Fairhope Museum of History will be designed to help tell the rich history of the City of Fairhope.

Citizens can also get involved in telling the story of the City. From now until November, submit your Fairhope story in 300 words or less and let your fellow residents know what you love most about Fairhope and why. Stories can be emailed to 125th@fairhopeal.gov. Please include a photo of yourself to be used with the story online at www.FairhopeAL.gov. Some stories and photos will be used on the City's social media channels during July-November.

A historic marker dedication, a Round-Up Day party and more will be held in the upcoming months as the celebration continues. For more information, email 125th@fairhopeal.gov.

2-hour Angler Academy at Gulf State Park Pier

Gulf State Park has opened an Angler Academy, a beginner's workshop to becoming a saltwater fisherman. Whether you have little or no experience, the experts at Gulf State Park's Nature Center will provide you with the tools and rules of saltwater fishing before casting out into the Gulf from the 1,540-foot pier.

Learn how to prepare your line and what bait to use to reel in a big catch. Even first-timers can become pros if the fish are biting. All fishing equipment is provided. A two hour class is \$15 per person and free for children five and under. For available times (maximum number is 10 per class), call 251-948-

AD. INFO

850-492-5221 • 251-968-5683

mulletwrapper.com

WED, JULY 3

- 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.
- Art El Fresco 10:45 a.m.; RSVP required, 251-948-8881 or online at tacky-jacks.com, includes lunch; Tack Jacks; Gulf Shores
- Legends in Concert (Bruno Mars, Reba McEntire, Elvis Presley, Whitney Houston, Rod Stewart, Garth Brooks): 7:30 p.m.; Downtown OWA; Foley; 251-369-6100.
- Tedeschi-Trucks Band: 7; The Wharf Amphitheater; Orange Beach.
- John Lee Sanders: 6; Voyagers Restaurant at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.

- Jim Parnell: 6; Tacky Jack's, Fort Morgan.
- Bourbon Burch: 6; Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.
- John Brust: 6; The Lobby Bar at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
- Jessie Howell: 6; Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.
- West Coast Swing Dance: 7; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
- Smokey Otis Trio: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Bingo: 10 a.m.; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- Danny Grady: 5; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- Karaoke w. Cindy & Mary: 5; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- Karaoke: 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- Karaoke: 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.

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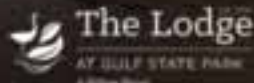
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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Humorist Sean Dietrich speaks at GSUMC July 10 Free show by "Sean of the South" a community gift from church

Humorist Sean Dietrich, aka Sean of the South, will make his first ever appearance in Gulf Shores on Wednesday, July 10 at the Gulf Shores United Methodist Church South Campus Auditorium. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for great warm-up music before Sean's performance. The public is invited to attend the free event sponsored by The United Methodist Men as a gift to the community. A love offering will be accepted. The church campus is located at 1900 Gulf Shores Pkwy. in Gulf Shores (251-968-2411).

"The people of Gulf Shores are fortunate to have Sean visit our community. Come out and join us for a wonderful time," said Steve Means of the sponsoring men's group. "Check him out on Facebook, and I guarantee you will be there on July 10."

Dietrich is a columnist, novelist, and creator of the blog, podcast, and radio show, "Sean of the South." Known for his commentary on life in the American South, his work has appeared in Southern Living, The Tallahassee Democrat, Good Grit, South Magazine, the Bitter Southerner, ALFA Alabama Farmer's Magazine, Alabama Living, and The Opelika Observer.

A Gulf Coast resident (Santa Rosa Beach, FL), Sean's new book, "Stars of Alabama," will be published two days before his appearance in Gulf Shores.

Sean publishes daily columns on his website, seandietrich.com, and has produced 75 podcasts. It has been said that to hear him speak is to fall under his spell, especially when he talks about the challenges he's faced in life.

Sean writes about the people he meets, celebrating the down-trodden, the poor, the unseen. His father's suicide when he was just 12 years old is a common theme in his writing. He had to quit school and work odd jobs to help his family survive.

Until he started getting paid for his writing, Sean made his living playing music all over the south. He has been compared to his idol, the late Atlanta Journal-Constitution humorist Lewis Grizzard.

"Stars of Alabama" begins in Mobile during the Great Depression, when Marigold, the red-haired heroine, makes a terrible error in judgment – hunger, poverty and rejection will do that to a person – and she leaves her baby for a short time, only to return and find her missing. She and Maggie (later renamed Ruth), her independent, intuitive red-haired daughter, continue without each other throughout the novel as the years and miles bring them closer to finding each other once again.



Beach.

- Scott Koehn/Flip Flop Bros: 6:30; Flip-flops, Orange Beach.
- Big Beach Running & Social Club: 5:30 p.m.; Big Beach Brewery in Gulf Shores; lafleetfeet.com.
- Brandon Styles Impressions & Magic Show: 7; OWA Showroom, 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: 7:15 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.
- Arts & Crafts Sales: 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Doc's RV Park, Fort Morgan Road, Gulf Shores.
- 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 United Methodist Church Activity Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Road, Pensacola.
- 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: 10 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.
- Bingo: 10 a.m.; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- Steak Night followed by music w. Bruni: 5; American Legion Post 99; Foley.

- til; (Sched. on pages 32-33), Flora-Bama, Perdido Key.
- Flora-Bama Bingo: 1-4 p.m.; Flora-Bama Loung Tent Stage; Perdido Key.
- 4th of July Fireworks: 8:45 p.m.; OWA, Foley.
- Brigham Cason: 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina.
- Tacky Jacks Beach Games: 11 a.m.; relay races, challenges, and brain teasers; participants get a free lunch; Tack Jacks; Gulf Shores.
- Legends in Concert (Bruno Mars, Reba McEntire, Elvis Presley, Whitney Houston, Rod Stewart, Garth Brooks): 4 p.m.; Downtown OWA; Foley; 251-369-6100.
- Open Mic: 7; Snapper's; Orange Beach.
- JJ Mack: noon, Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.
- Cory Reznor: 6; Playa; Orange Beach.
- Jason Jones Band: 6, Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.
- Scott Koehn: 5:30; Pleasure Island Tiki Bar, Orange Beach.
- Tim Roberts: 6:30; The Tin Top, Bon Secour.
- 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

THU, JULY 4

- Flora-Bama Possible Probables: 2 p.m.

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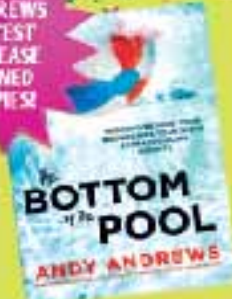


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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
 • DJ/Karaoke with LiL BoB: 8; Island Time Daquari; The Wharf; Orange Beach.
 • Brandon Styles Impressions & Magic Show: 7; OWA Showroom, Foley.
 • Karaoke: 10; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
 • Coping Conversations Grief Support Group: 9:30 a.m.; Nix Center, Fairhope, 251-626-5255 or 251-928-2835.
 • 8 Ball APA: 7:30; The Office, Foley.
 • Bridge: noon; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
 • Rotary Club of Gulf Shores/Orange Beach: noon; Gulf Shores Golf Club; visiting Rotarians and guests invited; 251-968-2000.
 • Blind Draw Dart Tourney: 7, American Legion Post 99; Foley.
 • 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.
 • 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.

FRI, JULY 5

• 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.
 • Oyster Bake Friday: 11 a.m.; music, corn hole, sand pile, family fun and games; Tack Jacks; Gulf Shores.
 • Legends in Concert (Bruno Mars, Reba McEntire, Elvis Presley, Whitney Houston, Rod Stewart, Garth Brooks): 4 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.; Downtown OWA; Foley; 251-369-6100.
 • Rascal Flatts: 7:30; The Wharf Amphitheater; Orange Beach.
 • JERI: 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina.
 • First Friday Fish Fry: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Foley United Methodist Church Spirit Center; 915 N Pine St., Foley.
 • Roadside Glorious: 6:30; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.
 • Touch Of Class: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
 • Matt & Candy: 7, Tacky Jack's, Fort Morgan.
 • Tim Higgins: 6; Playa; Orange Beach.
 • Hot Sands 2.0: 5 p.m.; Sassy Bass Caribbean Grill; Orange Beach.
 • Pale Moon Rising: noon, Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.
 • Open Juke Box: 7; The Office, Foley.
 • Sandra Kaye & The Legend Band: 8:30; Live Bait Restaurant, Orange Beach.
 • Shelby Brown Band: 6, Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.
 • First Friday Fish Fry: 11-1; Foley United Methodist Church Spirit Center, 915 N Pine St., Foley, 251-943-4393.
 • Jimmy Lee Hanniford: noon, Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.
 • Robbeaux n' Les: 6, Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.
 • Rhonda Hart: 5; Fin & Fork, Orange Beach.

• LA South: 6; Hub Stacy's at the Point; Innerarity Point.
 • First Friday Art Walk: 6; Downtown Fairhope.
 • Rib Eye Dinner to help Veterans and Families: 5 p.m.; music & dancing at 7 p.m.; American Legion Post 44; Gulf Shores.
 • Roger & Elaine: 7; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
 • Open Mic Karaoke: 5; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
 • Karaoke: 8; Snapper's; Orange Beach.
 • Karaoke: 10; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
 • Open Jam in the Canteen: 8, American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
 • Brandon Styles Impressions & Magic Show: 8; OWA Showroom, Foley.
 • Open Mixed Doubles Tennis: 7:15 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, JULY 6

• Flora-Bama Possible Probables: 2 p.m. 'til; (Sched. on pages 32-33), Flora-Bama, Perdido Key.
 • LuLu's Art Market w. The Gulf Coast Arts Alliance: 11 a.m.; Gulf Shores.

• John Brust: 6; Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
 • Rhonda Hart: 5; Fin & Fork, Orange Beach.
 • East LA Fadeaway: 5; Pirates Cove.
 • Albert Simpson: noon; LuLu's at Homeport Marina.
 • Ronnie Presley: 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina.
 • Lefty Collins: 6, Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.
 • Touch Of Class: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
 • Drake Freeman Band: 6:30; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.
 • Karl Langley: 6; Playa; Orange Beach.
 • Jason Abel: 9; The Office, Foley.
 • Hippiie Jim: 11 a.m., Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.
 • Neil Dover Duo: 6, Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.
 • Sandra Kaye & The Legend Band: 8:30; Live Bait Restaurant, Orange Beach.
 • Ray Coley: 7; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
 • Karaoke: 8; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.
 • Open Jam: 8; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
 • Karaoke: 10; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
 • Brandon Styles Impressions & Magic Show: 7; OWA Showroom, Foley.
 • Famous Nameless: 7; Hub Stacy's at the Point; Innerarity Point.
 • Corn-hole Tournament: 10 a.m.; American Legion Post 44; Gulf Shores.
 • Optimist Club of Perdido Bay: Breakfast every Saturday at 8 a.m. at the Lillian Community Club in Lillian; (251) 961-2620; Program: Two Old Men who regularly play and sing at The Front Porch in Lillian will play and tell their

story.
 • 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, JULY 7

• 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 Beach Service: noon; St. Thomas By The Sea Chapel; Orange Beach..
 • John Lee Sanders: 6; Voyagers Restaurant at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
 • Timmy G: 4 p.m.; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.
 • Damian Lamb: 11 a.m., Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.
 • Beave & Cleave: 6, Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.
 • J & J: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
 • Candy & Matt: 2 p.m.; Sassy Bass Amazin' Grill; Ft. Morgan.
 • Lisa Christian: noon, Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.
 • Robbeaux n' Les: 6, Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.
 • Rick Wilson: 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina.
 • Danny Grady: 2 p.m.; Fraternal Order of Eagles #4549, Gulf Shores.
 • Roger & Elaine: 6; American Legion



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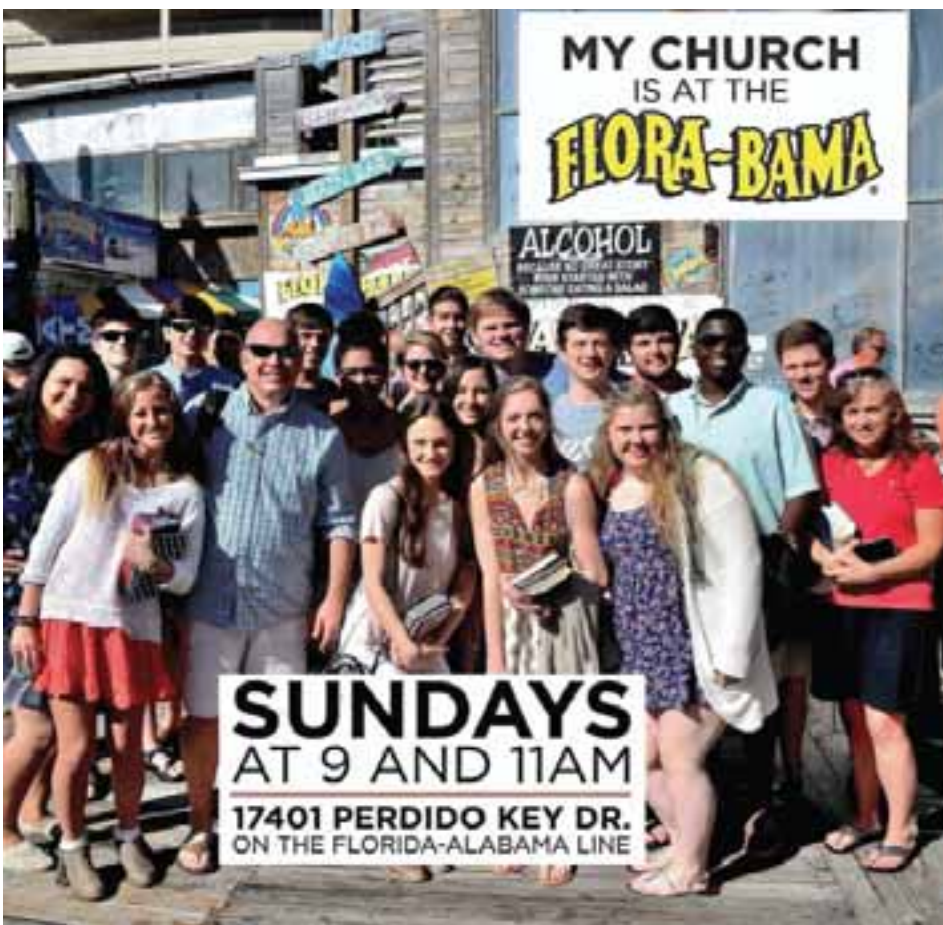
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LIVE MUSIC...Drake Freeman Band, 7/6: 6:30-9:30pm

LIVE MUSIC.....Timmi G, 7/7: 4-8pm

LIVE MUSIC.....Red and His Revealers, 7/8: 7-10pm

LIVE MUSIC.....Yea Probably, 7/12: 7-10pm

TRIVIA NIGHT.....7/8 & 7/15: 7pm

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WHAT'S HAPPENING



Post 44, Gulf Shores.
 • Scott Koehn: 4; Pleasure Island Tiki Bar, Orange Beach.
 • Lisa Zanghi: 6; The Lobby Bar at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
 • Jazzman David Jones: 11 a.m.; Playa, Orange Beach.
 • Turkey Shoot: sign-up at 11 a.m.; Elberta VFW, Elberta.
 • John Joiner & Friends: 4; Hub Stacey's at the Point; Innerarity Point.
 • 9 Ball APA: 6; The Office, Foley.
 • Jim McAdams: 5; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
 • AA: 5 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

MON, JULY 8

• 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.
 • Brandon Blackburn: 6; Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.
 • Lisa Zanghi: 6; The Lobby Bar at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
 • Trivia Night: 7; Big Beach Brewing

Company, Gulf Shores.
 • Kyle Brady: 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina.
 • Red & His Revelers: 7; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.
 • Mark Laborde & Smokey Otis: 7 p.m.; Papa Roccos, Gulf Shores.
 • Medicine Man: 6; Hub Stacy's at the Point; Innerarity Point.
 • Brandon Styles Impressions & Magic Show: 7; OWA Showroom, Foley.
 • Bridge: noon; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
 • Bingo: 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
 • Open Mixed Doubles Tennis: 7:15 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 Presbyte-

rian Church of Foley; (Berry & Highway 59).
 • Square Dancing: 7; Mainstream, Magnolia Springs.
 • Grief Share: 6 p.m.; Community Hospice Center, Foley.
 • 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.

TUE, JULY 9

• 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.
 • Hands on Habitat: 10:45 a.m.; free & family friendly; Tack Jacks; Gulf Shores. is a fun and • Zoo Camp: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo; Gulf Shores.
 • John Brust: 6; The Lobby Bar at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
 • Greg Brown: 6; Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.
 • Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde: 7;


CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S CONNECTION: Virginia Mosler, Mary Murcheson, Nancy Williams, Naomi Emond and Elizabeth Mudd-Connelly participated in the recent South Baldwin Christian Women's Connection held at the Gift Horse Restaurant in Foley. Each month the South Baldwin Christian Women's Connection hosts a program and buffet luncheon. The next luncheon will be Thursday July 11 and will feature Thomas Gebhart from the Foley Fire Department. For reservations, call 251-943-7142 or email emuddconnelly@gmail.com.



Learn variety of styles at Madame Rio's July 8-12 Coastal Ballet Summer Dance Camp

The Coastal Ballet Academy in Foley will host its annual summer dance camp July 8-12 from 10 a.m. 'til 4 p.m. The camp is open to children eight years old and up and cost is \$125 per student. Attendees will learn classical ballet, jazz, modern, theater in addition to acting classes, French lessons and etiquette, all under the instruction of Madame Rio. Registration is now open at coastalballet.org. For more info, call 251-979-9851 or 251-269-3723. The Coast Ballet Academy is located at 3786 S. McKenzie Street in the Fountain Plaza.

Pictured: Director Madame Rio Cordy Barlow works with students at Coastal Ballet Academy. Madame Barlow received her training thru the Royal Academy of Dance in London England. She is trained in New York at Juliard and in the Russia Vaganova Ballet technique. Madame Barlow has groomed many students to become professional dancers, ballet teachers, Olympic participants and contestants in professional beauty pageants. As artistic director of the non-profit Coastal Ballet, she produces an Annual Nutcracker performance.



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4 Main Room 2:00 Bat 6:00 Mark Sherrill & Friends 10:15 Mario Mena Duo Deck Stage 1:00 Jo Jo Pres 5:30 Dueling Pianos 10:00 Bruce Smelley & Jo Jo Pres Tent Stage 2:00 Roxy & the Magic Johnsons 6:00 Stone Broke Saints 10:30 Yeah, Probably Yacht Club 1:00 Bruce Smelley Duo 5:00 Tony Brook Ole River Grill 4:00 Ryan Balthrop 8:00 Justin Jeansonne Duo	5 Main Room 2:00 Lea Anne Creswell Duo 6:00 Electric Dawg 10:15 Justin Jeansonne Duo Deck Stage 1:00 Tony Brook 5:30 Big Earl Show 10:00 Mario Mena Band Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo 6:00 Tony Ray Thompson Band 10:30 Yellowhammer Yacht Club 6:00 Wes Loper Ole River Grill 4:00 Justin Jeansonne 8:00 Tim Roberts Duo	6 Main Room 11:00 J Hawkins Duo 2:00 Sugarcane Jane 6:00 Al & Cathy 10:30 Smokey & Bob Deck Stage 1:00 Lauren Murphy & the Psychedelics 5:30 Big Earl Show 10:00 Braxton Calhoun Band Tent Stage 2:00 Catiwompus 6:00 Lucky Doggs 9:00 Adam Doleac 10:30 Oliver's Twist Yacht Club 1:00 Wes Loper 5:00 Tim Roberts Ole River Grill 4:00 Mario Mena Duo 8:00 Albert Simpson & John Kulinich	7 Main Room 1:30 Just a Little Rusty 6:00 Perdido Brothers 10:15 Albert Simpson & John Kulinich Deck Stage 1:00 Wes Loper 5:30 Brandon Elder Band 10:00 Braxton Calhoun Tent Stage 9:00 & 11:00 Church 2:00 Al & Cathy 6:00 Tony Ray Thompson Trio Yacht Club 12:00 Albert Simpson & John Kulinich 5:00 Mario Mena Ole River Grill 2:00 Tim Roberts 6:00 Johnny Hayes	8 Main Room 2:00 Gove Scrivenor 6:00 Open Mic with Cathy Pace 10:15 Petty & Pace Deck Stage 5:30 Justin Jeansonne 10:00 Ja' Rhythm Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo Yacht Club 5:00 Wes Loper Ole River Grill 6:00 Albert Simpson	9 Main Room 2:00 T-Bone Montgomery 6:00 Perdido Brothers 10:15 Wes Loper Deck Stage 6:00 Bat 10:00 Jo Jo Pres Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo Yacht Club 5:00 Albert Simpson Ole River Grill 6:00 Ryan Dyer	10 Main Room 2:00 Neil Dover 6:00 Rhonda Hart Duo 10:15 Albert Simpson & John Kulinich Deck Stage 5:30 Tony Ray Thompson 10:00 Lex & the Luthors Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo Yacht Club 5:00 Alexa Burroughs Ole River Grill 6:00 Bruce Smelley
11 Main Room 2:00 Christina Christian 6:00 Mark Sherril & Friends 10:15 Bruce Smelley Duo Deck Stage 5:30 Dueling Pianos 10:00 Justin Jeansonne Band Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo 6:00 Albert Simpson Trio 10:30 Spunk Monkees Yacht Club 5:00 Bruce Smelley Ole River Grill 6:00 Wes Loper	12 Main Room 2:00 Lea Anne Creswell Duo 6:00 Flip Flop Brothers 10:30 Ryan Dyer Duo Deck Stage 1:00 J Hawkins Trio 5:30 Big Earl Show 10:00 Bruce Smelley & Jo Jo Pres Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo 6:00 Ryan Balthrop & Friends 10:30 Spunk Monkees Yacht Club 6:00 Mike Diamond Ole River Grill 4:00 Bruce Smelley 8:00 Bat	13 Main Room 11:00 J Hawkins Duo 2:00 Mike Diamond 6:00 Johnny B Trio 10:15 Magic Johnsons Deck Stage 1:00 Al & Cathy 5:30 Big Earl Show 10:00 River Dan Band Tent Stage 2:00 Hung Jury 6:00 Jamell Richardson Gulf Coast Blues Boy 10:30 Yeah, Probably Yacht Club 1:00 Bruce Smelley Duo 5:00 Bat Ole River Grill 4:00 Sam Glass Duo 8:00 Rebecca Barry Duo	14 Main Room 1:30 Just a Little Rusty 6:00 Perdido Brothers 10:15 Mario Mena Duo Deck Stage 1:30 Bat 5:30 Big Muddy 10:00 River Dan Band Tent Stage 9:00 & 11:00 Church Services 2:00 Al & Cathy 6:00 Jo Jo Pres Yacht Club 12:00 Mario Mena Duo 5:00 Brittany Grimes Ole River Grill 2:00 Ryan Dyer Duo 6:00 Justin Jeansonne	15 Main Room 2:00 Gove Scrivenor 6:00 Open Mic with Cathy Pace 10:15 Petty & Pace Deck Stage 5:30 Ryan Dyer 10:00 Mario Mena Band Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo Yacht Club 5:00 Christina Christian Ole River Grill 6:00 Spencer Maige	16 Main Room 2:00 T-Bone Montgomery 6:00 Perdido Brothers 10:15 Tim Roberts Duo Deck Stage 5:30 Spencer Maige 10:00 Hung Jury Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo Yacht Club 5:00 Sam Glass Ole River Grill 6:00 Brittany Grimes	17 Main Room 2:00 Shelby Brown 6:00 Rhonda Hart Duo 10:15 Justin Jeansonne Duo Deck Stage 5:30 Jeff Dayton 10:00 Jo Jo Pres Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo Yacht Club 5:00 Spencer Maige Ole River Grill 6:00 Alexa Burroughs

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WHAT'S HAPPENING



B-Street Benny plays free July 11 Pelican Place Courtyard show

B-Street Benny will be the entertainment for July 11 and the John Martin Davis Band on July 18 during the Sounds of Summer Thursday Evening Concert Series in the central courtyard at Pelican Place at Craft Farms in Gulf Shores. August concerts scheduled by the fountain in the courtyard are David Jones on August 8 and Nobius on August 22.

Concerts are from 6-8 p.m. and free to the public. Pelican Place is located at 3800 Gulf Shores Pkwy. at the intersection of Hwy. 59 and County Rd. 4. Find more info at pelicanplacegulfshores.com

Pictured: B Street Benny has been honing its musical stylings in the French Quarter for more than half a decade, entertaining hundreds of thousands of vacationers. The band includes the husband and wife team of TJ and Brad Lewis and singer extraordinaire Kentro Mason Taylor. TJ is a South Louisiana native who began singing at the ripe old age of 5. She has sang for a Christmas celebration in the White House and in Las Vegas, Los Angeles and Walt Disney World and fronts the band with husband and guitarist Brad Lewis. She has shared the stage with Anders Osborne and the Wild Magnolia Mardi Gras Indians. She's also opened up for Marva Wright and Irma Thomas. Her tone is rich and unique and she has a chameleon like ability which allows her to cover a vast range of styles. Brad began playing guitar at age 15 in England. He spent a number of years playing the Baton Rouge blues circuit as the guitarist for the late great Raful Neal. He also plays with the Wild Magnolia Mardi Gras Indians on stages all over the country, including at the Rochester International Jazz Festival and the New Orleans Jazz Fest. B Street Benny would have an opening for a new bassist. He picked up the bass with his current band and now finds himself with a full work schedule on both guitar and bass. Brad's opened up for Paul Simon, Dr. John and Bow Wow Wow.

"We knew from the first time we played music together that there was something special about it," said TJ. "We'd both worked with various other musicians for years before meeting. But this was different."



Sirens of the Sea planning their Annual drawdown fundraiser

Sirens of the Sea, a local women's Mardi Gras Krewe, is making plans for their upcoming Fall Fundraiser, the 3rd Annual Football Tailgating Drawdown. It will be held at the Orange Beach Event Center at the Wharf on Friday September 20th from 6:00 pm until 10:30 pm. The Drawdown promises to be a fun filled night. The Drawdown Grand Prize is \$5,000! Super raffle items include a \$500 gift certificate from Expedite Cruise Ship Center in Gulf Shores; and a private four-hour offshore fishing charter. Regular raffle tickets for additional items are only \$2 and will be available at the door, as well as from Sirens Members. A silent auction will have an array of items.

Live music will be presented by Jesse Duncan Music. They will light up the night playing rhythm and blues, soul, rock, and country. Everyone is invited to come out and join the tailgating party. Don't forget to wear your favorite NCAA College or NFL Pro Football team gear.

Ticket price is \$50 and will be offered by all Sirens. In August, tickets will be available at Diamond Jewelers in Gulf Shores; J&M Tackle in Orange Beach; and McClure's New York Bagel & Sandwich Shoppe in Orange Beach. For more information or tickets contact Linda Pacatte at 251-402-2218 or Judy Hamby 270-887-9691.

Pictured: Cheering for their favorite teams are President Susan Giannini, Second Vice President Debra Windham, and Third Vice President Charlene Boteler.

- Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Night Travelers: 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina.
- Elaine Petty: 2 p.m.; Sassy Bass Amazin' Grill; Ft. Morgan.
- Ricky Johnson: 5; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- Bowling Tourney: 7; Snapper's; Orange Beach.
- Karaoke: 7; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
- Free Line Dance Lessons With Lori: 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- JW Karaoke: 6; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- Lisa Christian: 6; Sunset Cork Room, Gulf Shores.
- Brandon Styles Impressions & Magic Show: 7; OWA Showroom, Foley.
- Kiwanis Club of Big Lagoon: 5 p.m.; social meeting; locations to be determined, 850-867-5873 or 901-734-1066.
- 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



Museum seeks copies of birth certificates from folks delivered by Holmes Memorial Hospital staff

Were you born in the Sibley Holmes Memorial Hospital in Foley or did one of the doctors or nurses from the hospital come to your home and deliver you? If you are one of the "Holmes Babies," the Hospital Museum would like a copy of your birth certificate. Each person would get a 8 1/2 x 11 inch page in the museum birth certificate directory. You would be able to include a baby picture or other information on your page. Just drop off a copy of your birth certificates to the Hospital Museum at 111 W Laurel St. in downtown Foley. Contact Museum Director Bill Swanson at bswanson@cityoffoley.org or 608.206.1016 for more info.

"We have over 100 copies of birth certificates of people born in the hospital or delivered at home by one of the doctors or nurses during the time the hospital was in operation," Swanson said. "We know there are probably over 100 more birth certificates we do not have."

Pictured: Located above a still-working drugstore, the Holmes Medical Museum is housed in Foley's first hospital from 1936 to 1958. When the hospital closed, the rooms were preserved just as they looked. Visitors can stroll through the operating room and patient rooms of the four-bed hospital. Steel tools used to pinch, poke, and prod are laid out in cases and on stark metal trays. The museum is open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. It is located at 111 W Laurel Ave, (hwy. 59) in Foley. More info: 251-970-1818.

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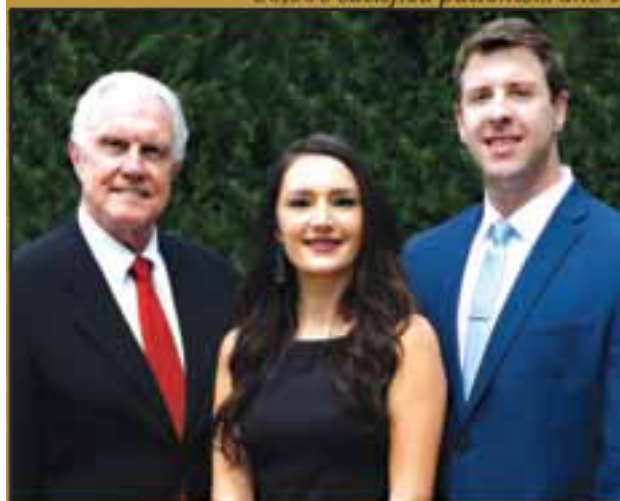
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July 18—Beach Games

July 19—Oyster Bake Friday with Live Music

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Little Pink House of Hope Retreat in O.B. Aug. 18-24

Little Pink Houses of Hope, a non-profit that provides free week long vacations for breast cancer survivors and their families, will have its 6th Retreat in Orange Beach from Aug. 18-24.

"We believe a cancer diagnosis does not just affect the patient, but the entire family. Retreats are designed to help families relax and reconnect," said event coordinator Robi Jones.

"Through generous donations and community support, we are able to provide lodging, meals and activities for the families. The only expense the family incurs is for transportation to the event."

There are many ways the community can support Team Pink including providing meals and grocery gift cards, welcome baskets and beach towels.

Team Pink is always looking for volunteers to provide support during the week. For more info, visit littlepink.org or contact Robi Jones at robi@littlepink.org.

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.

WED, JULY 10

- 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.
- Art El Fresco 10:45 a.m.; RSVP required, 251-948-8881 or online at tacky-jacks.com, includes lunch; Tacky Jacks; Gulf Shores
- Open Mic Night: 5:30; Tacky Jack's, 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.
- Adam Holt: 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina.
- Henry's Burt & The Invisibles: 6, Tacky Jack's, Fort Morgan.
- Swing Dancing: 7, American Legion Post 99; Fairhope.
- Big Beach Running Club: 5:30 p.m.; Big Beach Brewery in Gulf Shores; all levels welcome.
- Scott Koehn/Flip Flop Bros: 6:30; Flip-flops, Orange Beach.
- Lonesome Mel: 6, Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.
- Danny Grady: 5; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- Smoke Free Bingo: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- Karaoke: 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- John Joiner & Friends: 6; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Karaoke: 9; The Office, Foley.
- Bingo: 10 a.m.; American Legion Post 99; Foley.

- Brandon Styles Impressions & Magic Show: 7; OWA Showroom, 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: 7:15 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.
- 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 United Methodist Church Activity Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Road, Pensacola.
- Gulf Shores Lions Club: noon; 2nd & 4th Wednesday; noon; Gulf Shores Adult Activity Center, 300 E. 16th Avenue; 251-968-2823.
- Storytime at Pensacola Southwest Branch Library: free; infant to 5; 10:30-11; 12238 Old Gulf Beach Hwy; (850)453-7780.
- AA: Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (In-



Sandy Roots Songwriters Series continues July 16

Davis Corley, Christina Christian, Taylor Craven, Amanda Pruitt, Wade Sapp and Anthony Peebles will play original music in the round on Tuesday, July 16 in the courtyard at the Point Restaurant on Innerarity Point beginning at 6 p.m.

The concert is part of Nick Biebricher's Sandy Roots Songwriters Series, an event held the third Tuesday of each month at the Point. Doors open at 5p.m. and shows last approximately three hours. There will be a \$5 cover. An open mic night for local original songwriters follows each showcase. Biebricher said he sponsors the series to give local singer/songwriters the opportunity to showcase their talents with the best singer/songwriters from around the country. More information: Sandyrootsmusic@gmail.com or (251) 284-2443 or sandyroot-sproductions.com.

Pictured: Perdido Key resident Christina Christian released her debut album entitled, Silent Sea, in 2017, and her most recent release, "Dolly, Would You Pardon Me," has received airplay in the Southeast as well as England and Australia in 2018. Her song "Little Miracles" has been adopted as the official song of the Miracle League of Coastal Alabama. Christina is married to Songwriter Series founder Nick Biebricher.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING

nerarity Point) Pensacola.

THU, JULY 11

- 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.
- Tacky Jacks Beach Games: 11 a.m.; relay races, challenges, and brain teasers; participants get a free lunch; Tack Jacks; Gulf Shores.
- Cabaret Dance- Country/ Western theme: 7 p.m.-10 p.m.; James P. Nix Center, Fairhope 251-928-2835.
- Scott Koehn: 5:30; Pleasure Island Tiki Bar, Orange Beach.
- The Red Field: 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina.
- B Street Benny: 6; Pelican Place at Craft Farms, Gulf Shores.
- Greg Brown: 2 p.m.; Sassy Bass Amazin' Grill; Ft. Morgan.
- Tim Roberts: 6:30; The Tin Top, Bon Secour.
- Brandon Blackburn: 6; Tacky Jack's, 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; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Open Mic: 7; Snapper's; Orange Beach.
- Karaoke: 10; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- Karaoke: 7; Tacky Jacks; Ft. Morgan.
- Brandon Styles Impressions & Magic Show: 7; OWA Showroom, Foley.
- Blind Draw Dart Tourney: 7; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- Coping Conversations Grief Support Group: 9:30 a.m.; Nix Center, Fairhope, 251-626-5255 or 251-928-2835.
- 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.
- Bridge: noon; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- Rotary Club of Gulf Shores/Orange Beach: noon; Gulf Shores Golf Club; visiting Rotarians and guests invited; 251-968-2000.
- 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, JULY 12

- 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.
- Oyster Bake Friday: 11 a.m.; music, corn hole, sand pile, family fun and games; Tack Jacks; Gulf Shores.
- Coconut Radio: 5 p.m.; Sassy Bass Caribbean Grill; Orange Beach.
- Doc Holmes & Brian Hill: 6; Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

COOKIN' WITH CAROLYN

By CAROLYN GODFREY

Fluffy Green Grape Salad

2 cans (8 oz. each) crushed pineapple, undrained

1 pkg. (3.4 oz.) instant pistachio pudding mix

1 carton (12 oz.) frozen whipped topping, thawed

2 cups halved green grapes

In a large bowl, combine the pineapple and pudding mix; mix well. Cover and refrigerate for 10 min. Fold in the whipped topping and grapes. Refrigerate until serving. Enjoy!

McCollum sweeps AL. Press Assn. Best Public Service awards

By John Mullen

Cliff McCollum (pictured) may have left the newspaper business for a job with the Baldwin County Legislative Delegation but he walked away with another pile of awards from the Alabama Press Association. The current Baldwin County Legislative Delegation Constituent Services Director and former journalist swept the Best Public Service award category at this year's Alabama Press Association Media Awards on June 29 at the Perdido Beach Resort.

McCollum, a Fairhope resident, won first and second in the category, and the judges chose to award no third place in that category.

McCollum won second place Best Public Service for his coverage of a memo from Fairhope Mayor Karin Wilson to her city's employees in which Wilson told city employees they were not allowed to be directed by Fairhope city council members and that contact with a council member should be reported to a departmental head.

McCollum won first place in Best Public Service for his stories involving usage of City of Fairhope city property in the form of barricades in support of a Roy Moore election rally on private property and whether use of that city property for the event was a violation of state law.

McCollum said he was humbled for the wins in the category, one of the "Big 10" prestigious awards given out by the Alabama Press Association.

"I'm pleased with the awards, though the greatest satisfaction with stories like those in making sure that truth and information got out to the public," McCollum said. "Awards are certainly nice, but helping to create an informed public is the highest goal for a journalist."

McCollum won four other awards this year that had been previously announced, including:

- A First-Place award in Best In-Depth News Coverage for "Baldwin Behind Bars," an inside look at the Baldwin County jail facility.
- First and Second Place awards in the Best Humorous Column category.
- A Second-Place award for Best News Feature Story for his piece "A look inside the Baldwin County Animal Shelter"

McCollum won the awards while working at a community newspaper group within Baldwin County.

- Funky Lampshades: 6; Playa; Orange Beach.
- Bo Grant: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Warp Speed Sulu: 7; The Office, Foley.
- Sticky Too: 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina.
- Yeah Probably: 6:30; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.

- Rhonda Hart: 5; Fin & Fork, Orange Beach.
- Coconut Radio: 2 p.m.; Sassy Bass Amazin' Grill; Ft. Morgan.
- John Lee Sanders: 5; The Lobby Bar at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
- Les Linton: 7; Tacky Jack's, Fort Morgan.
- Jimmy Lee Hanniford: noon, Tacky

- Jack's, Gulf Shores.
- Brett Legrave: 6; Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.
- Open Jam: 8; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
- Karaoke: 10; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- Karaoke: 8; Snapper's; Orange Beach.
- Open Mic Karaoke: 5; American Legion



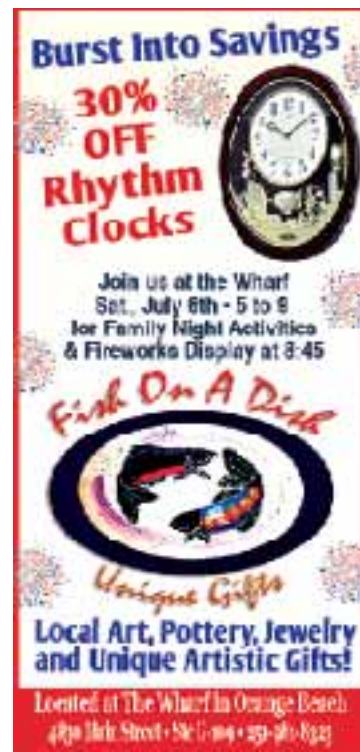
Presentation of Kevin Cobb's 2019 Zydeco Festival poster

At the June 17th meeting of the Gulf Shores City Council, the Gulf Coast Arts Alliance presented to the City the original 2019 poster for the Zydeco and Crawfish Festival. The Festival is an annual event, which is held in mid-April and is sponsored by the City of Gulf Shores. The Gulf Coast Arts Alliance is the organization, which acquires artists for the Festival. Each year, a "call to artists" is conducted for submission of a rendering for the annual poster. The work of Kevin Cobb was selected for 2019. Copies of the poster are available at the Gulf Coast Arts Alliance for \$15. The Gulf Coast Arts Alliance is a non-profit organization with office and art gallery at 225 E 24th Ave. in the Waterway Village District of Gulf Shores. For more information contact gulfcoastartsalliance@gmail.com, call 251-948-2627 or visit gulfcoastartsalliance.com. Pictured: Mayor Robert Craft, Debbie Holmes, Glenda Lee, Kevin Cobb, Maria Bastin, Councilman Phillip Harris and Tommy Vogel.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Recreational Red Snapper season should stay open thru July 27

The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) has been issued an Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) from NOAA Fisheries to manage the private vessel and state-licensed charter vessel components of Alabama's recreational red snapper fishery. The 2019 private angler season began June 1 and is expected to be open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday through July 28 and the Fourth of July – a total of 27 days.

In 2019, Alabama's red snapper quota is 1,079,513 pounds. ADCNR monitors red snapper landings via Snapper Check, a program created to collect mandatory reports from recreational anglers landing red snapper in Alabama.

In order to obtain landings estimates, the number of reported harvested fish is multiplied by the average weight of fish measured and weighed by ADCNR staff from randomly selected vessels. The reporting ratio is determined by comparing information collected by ADCNR staff at public boat ramps and marinas to vessel reports submitted by anglers through Snapper Check.

The first three weekends of the nine-weekend season – an estimated 315,377 pounds have been harvested by recreational anglers from private and state-licensed charter vessels (see graph below). The average weight of the fish has been 7.17 pounds. This estimate is based on the current Snapper Check reporting rate of 50%. The percentage of harvested quota and elapsed fishing days are nearly identical at 29.2 and 28.6, respectively.

ADCNR recognizes the impact that local weather has on the landings this season and will continue to monitor the fishing effort, catch rates, and average fish size to determine if the season length will need to be adjusted.

The goal of the state-managed plan is to ensure that anglers fishing from Alabama have the opportunity to catch the state's fish allocation but not exceed those pounds. The critical portion of managing the quota is accurate and timely reporting by anglers through the Snapper Check program. Any landings amount above the quota in 2019 will be deducted from the 2020 quota prior to the start of the 2020 season.

"There have been a lot of nice red snapper landed in Alabama this year despite the rough waters," said Chris Blankenship, Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

"We are a little below our projections due to the winds earlier this month. We hope the winds are fairer through the Fourth of July holiday weekend, so people can enjoy catching this tasty fish.

"We appreciate the fishermen who have reported their catch through Snapper Check, but there is definitely room for improvement. Our officers will be issuing citations for vessels that fail to report their catch before landing," Blankenship said.

The EFP does not cover federally permitted charter vessels, which have their own season. Anglers are reminded that the federally permitted, for-hire charter boats are not managed under the state system. That season runs seven days a week until August 1, 2019.

Additional information regarding the Alabama EFP and 2019 season statistics can be found at outdooralabama.com/saltwater-fishing/exempted-fishing-permit.

To learn more learn more about ADCNR, visit outdooralabama.com.

Teen Club starts in Oct. in Gulf Shores

The Gulf Shores Recreation Department is excited to announce a new recreation program, Gulf Shores Teen Club (ClubGST), beginning in October. ClubGST is open to children in grades 6-9.

ClubGST will meet after school every Friday during the months of October 2019-April 2020 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Transportation from school to the Cultural Center will be provided. The registration cost for ClubGST is \$40 per month.

Interested children may register for ClubGST at the Bodenhamer Recreation Center or Cultural Center. For more information about ClubGST, please contact Program Coordinator Amanda Deckard by email at adeckard@gulfshoresal.gov or call 251-968-4419.

Free seeds offered at Magnolia Library

Check out the seeds available to grow and harvest in your garden at the the Magnolia Springs Public Library. The only requirement to pick up the new and organic/heirloom seeds is that you have a library card anywhere in Baldwin County. If you fail in your attempts to grow these seeds, you won't be fined. Magnolia Springs Public Library is located at 12440 Magnolia Avenue, Suite 600, in Magnolia Springs. for more info, call 251-965-2305.

Post 99; Foley.

• Brandon Styles Impressions & Magic Show: 8; OWA Showroom, Foley.

• Jay Williams: 6; Hub Stacy's at the Point; Innerarity Point.

• Sandra Kaye & The Legend Band: 8:30; Live Bait Restaurant, Orange Beach.

• Rib Eye Dinner to help Veterans and Families: 5 p.m.; music & dancing at 7 p.m.; American Legion Post 44; Gulf Shores.

• Roger & Elaine: 7; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.

• Open Mixed Doubles Tennis: 7:15 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 House Restaurant in Foley; foleyrotary.org/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, JULY 13

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

• John Brust: 6; Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.

• Rhonda Hart: 5; Fin & Fork, Orange Beach.

• Ronnie Pressley: 6; Playa; Orange Beach.

• Karaoke: 7; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.

• Chillbillies: 5; Pirates Cove.

• Bo Grant: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.

• Gear Head: 9; The Office, Foley.

• Gypsy Pearl: 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina.

• Karaoke: 10; The Undertow; Orange Beach.

• JJ Mack: 11 a.m., Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.

• Kelly Poole: 7; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.

• Mac Walter & Tbone Montgomery: 6; Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.

• Soul Food Junkies: 6; Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.

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

• Brandon Styles Impressions & Magic Show: 8; OWA Showroom, Foley.

• Platinum Premier: 7; Hub Stacy's at the Point; Innerarity Point.

• Sandra Kaye & The Legend Band: 8:30; Live Bait Restaurant, Orange Beach.

• Steak Night followed by music w. Bruni: 5; American Legion Post 99; Foley.

• Free 2nd Saturday Veterans Breakfast: 8:30-10 a.m.; American Legion Post

44; Gulf Shores.

• 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.

SUN, JULY 14

• Central Flora-Bama Church: Church experiences, 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.; Flora-Bama Tent Stage, Perdido Key.

• Unity Church Beach Service: noon; St. Thomas By The Sea Chapel; Orange Beach..

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

• Bitter End Band: 2 p.m.; Sassy Bass Amazin' Grill; Ft. Morgan.

• Gingo Fire: 11 a.m., Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.

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

• Gambino Duo: 6; Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.

• Danny Grady: 2 p.m.; Fraternal Order of Eagles #4549, Gulf Shores.

• Rick Wilson: 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina.

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

• Lisa Zanghi: 6; The Lobby Bar at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.

• Lisa Christian: noon, Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.

• Three Bean Soup: 6, Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.

• Scott Koehn: 4; Pleasure Island Tiki Bar, Orange Beach.

• David Jones: 11 a.m.; Playa, Orange Beach.

• Roger & Elaine: 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.

• Karaoke: 7; Live Bait Tiki Bar, Orange Beach.

• John Joiner & Friends: 4; Hub Stacy's at the Point; Innerarity Point.

• Jim McAdams: 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, JULY 15

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

• Flora-Bama Bay: free; 1-4 p.m.;





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WHAT'S HAPPENING



The Legend Band has served Pleasure Isle a musical buffet since '92

Good bands, like a cats and kids, deserve good homes. Sandra Kaye & The Legend Band is a very good band and, lucky for dancers, they will call Live Bait in Orange Beach home twice a week.

Every Friday and Saturday through through Labor Day, beginning at 8:30 p.m., the Legend Band, as they have on Pleasure Island since 1992, will serve a musical buffet with emphasis on songs that put folks on the dance floor.

Led by vocalist Sandra Kaye, the band simply does not take songs off. Everything from high energy dance to slow, moving bluesy ballads, they play with spirit and soul. Whether a cover or an original, the band brings a full and tight sound to each gig, each set and each song. The house band at Nolan's for many years, the Legend Band has opened for Steppenwolf and The Animals. Its members have worked with John Anderson, John Conley, Billy Joe Royal, Dr. Hook, B. J. Thomas, Jeff Cook and other top acts, but when they come together, they form a dynamic powerhouse of a team that plays as one while on stage together.

Pictured: Sandra Kaye & The Legend Band includes Silva Saxon, vocals/keyboards/wind synth/flute; Sandra Kaye, vocals/lighting/pa/percussion/acoustic guitar; Charlie Stough, vocals/guitar/slide; Vic Jones, vocals/drums; Roger Agerton, bass guitar.

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Free parking, entry at GSP Pier July 19

The Alabama State Parks Division will celebrate 200 years of Alabama statehood on the 200th day of 2019 – Friday, July 19 – by declaring it Bicentennial Day at Alabama State Parks.

Free admission covers all gate and day use fees and includes free sightseeing and fishing at the Gulf State Park Pier. A saltwater fishing license is still required when fishing from the Gulf State Park Pier or beaches.

Free parking includes the Beach Pavilion parking lot at Gulf State Park. The discount on overnight accommodations is for July 19 only and does not apply to groups or include The Lodge at Gulf State Park, a Hilton Hotel.

In addition to Alabama's bicentennial, the state parks system is celebrating its 80th anniversary.

Alabama became a state on December 14, 1819. Work on Cheaha, began in the early 1930s. Today, there are 21 state parks in Alabama.

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great prizes, family friendly; 17401 Perdido Key Dr., Perdido Key.

- Lisa Zanghi: 6; The Lobby Bar at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
- Trivia at Big Beach: 7 p.m.; Big Beach Brewing Company, Gulf Shores.
- Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Mac Walter: 6; Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.
- Ronnie Presley: 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina.
- Brandon Styles Impressions & Magic Show: 7; OWA Showroom, Foley.
- Chris Beverly: 6; Hub Stacy's at the Point; Innerarity Point.
- Open Mixed Doubles Tennis: 7:15 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.
- Grief Share: 6 p.m.; Community Hospice Center, 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).
- Square Dancing: 7; Mainstream, Magnolia Springs.
- 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.

TUE, JULY 16

- 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.
- Hands on Habitat: 10:45 a.m.; free & family friendly; Tack Jacks; Gulf Shores. is a fun and • Zoo Camp: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.;

Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo; Gulf Shores.

- Farah Lovelady: 2 p.m.; Sassy Bass Amazin' Grill; Ft. Morgan.
- Free Line Dance Lessons With Lori: 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- JJ Mack: 6; Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.
- John Brust: 6; The Lobby Bar at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
- Lefty Collins: 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina.
- Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Lisa Christian: 6; Sunset Cork Room, Gulf Shores.
- Open Mic Karaoke: 5; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
- Bowling Tourney: 7; Snapper's; Orange Beach.
- JW Karaoke: 6; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- Brandon Styles Impressions & Magic Show: 7; OWA Showroom, Foley.
- Ricky Johnson & Company: 5; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- Kiwanis Club of Big Lagoon: 7:30 a.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Activities Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Road, Pensacola, 850-867-5873 or 901-734-1066.
- 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 Tues-

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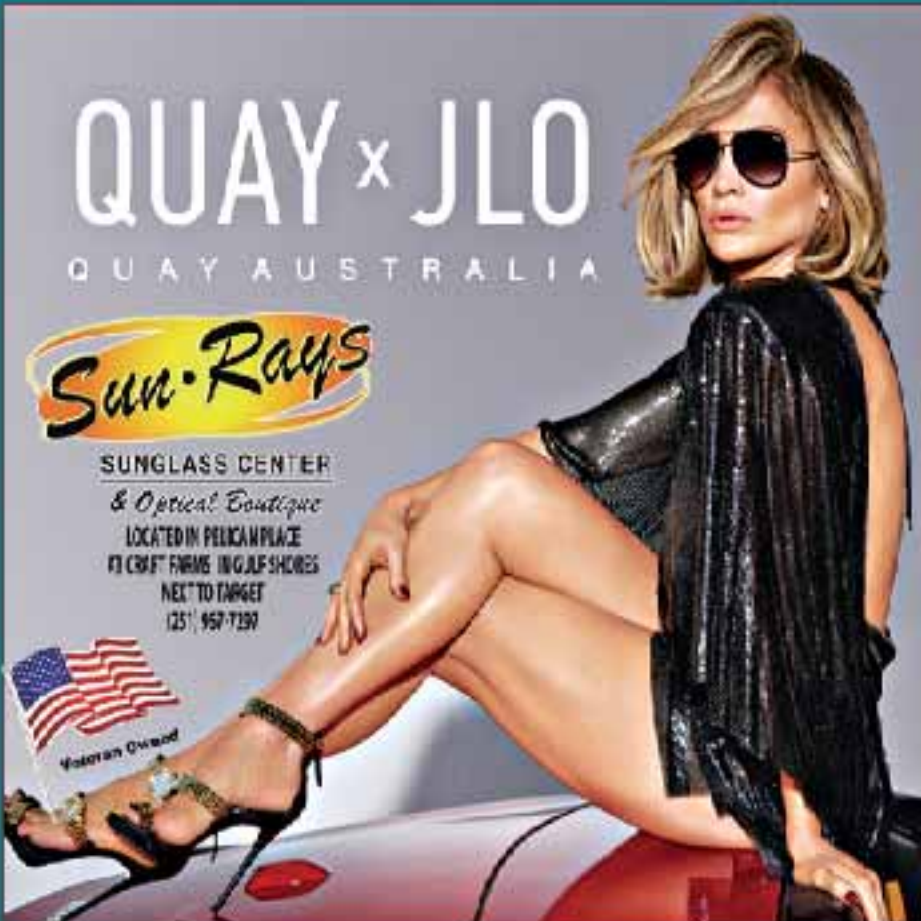
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WHAT'S HAPPENING

O.B. Full Moon Paddle July 14 in Orange Beach

The City of Orange Beach - Relay for Life Team will host its second full moon paddles on Sunday, July 14 (with food from Cosmo's Restaurant). Registration is \$25 per person for what has become the number one fundraising effort for the Orange Beach Team.

The event will be held at the Wind & Water Learning Center at 26267 Canal Road, behind the Orange Beach Public Library. Dinner will be served at 6:15 p.m. After enjoying the food, entertainment and meeting new friends, everyone heads out onto the water from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

Online registration is available at eventbrite.com or pick one up at any city recreation facility in Orange Beach. Participants must bring their own kayak or canoe, personal flotation device (PFD) and white light. Paddling experience is necessary for this fundraiser as 3 to 5 miles will be covered on Wolf Bay. For more information, call 251-981-1524 or jfitz@orangebeachal.gov. All funds raised benefit the American Cancer Society - Relay for Life effort.

First Friday fish-fry July 5 at Foley United Methodist

Foley United Methodist will host its First Friday Fish-Fry on July 5 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the Church Spirit Center (915 N. Pine St.). The fundraiser is held the first Friday of every month. Enjoy delicious white fish filets fried to golden perfection, accompanied by cole slaw, baked beans, hush puppies, dessert, and a drink all for a donation of \$8. Patrons can even get orders to-go! No reservation necessary. For more info, call 251-943-4393 or visit foleyumc.org.



GSHS art teacher visits Coach Krzyzewski at Duke

Austin Boyd, as part of a spontaneous realism painting technique class he teaches at Gulf Shores High School, paints a picture of a celebrity each year and sends it to that person in hopes of getting a response. Clemson Football Coach Dabo Swinney and President Trump are among those who responded.

But this year's celebrity, Duke Basketball Coach Mike Krzyzewski personally called to thank Boyd and his students for the honor and invited the Boyd family to visit the campus this summer and the family took him up on the offer.

"We met Coach K this past Friday and what a great time we had," Boyd said. "He is just as nice, honorable, funny and respectable as Dabo Swinney. We spent about 15-20 minutes in his office lounge talking and then he gave us a mini-tour of Cameron Indoor stadium."

Boyd said his family was able to meet many Duke players past and current and received VIP treatment from the Duke basketball staff throughout their visit.

"I invited Coach and his family down for a nice beach weekend, so we will see if he takes me up on it," he said "He also said that he was really honored to be chosen as a subject of one of my paintings and to join the list. He and his staff love the portrait. He had some really comical comments about himself and the portrait."

Boyd presented Coach K a student signed art class photo and a t-shirt, and he hopes to return to Raleigh for a hoop game next season.

Pictured: GSHS art teacher Austin Boyd with his students and with his family in Duke hoop coach Mike Krzyzewski's office.



days 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.

WED, JULY 17

• 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.

• Art El Fresco 10:45 a.m.; RSVP required, 251-948-8881 or online at tackyjacks.com, includes lunch; Tack Jacks;



Tacky Jacks Summer of Fun begins June 4 in Gulf Shores

Tacky Jacks Gulf Shores presents the 7th Annual Summer each Tuesday through Friday during lunch. A monthly schedule of events is online at tackyjacks.com.

Featured will be art classes, a hands on nature series, beach games, and a waterfront oyster bake with live music. Hands on Habitat, Art al Fresco, Tacky Jacks Beach Games, and Oyster Bake Fridays make up a series of weekly lunch time activities offered at the waterfront venue, located at 240 E 24th Ave in Gulf Shores (251-948-8881).

The Summer of Fun series will feature different events to include regional artists, local organizations, and musicians

Tuesday's Hands on Habitat is a fun and educational hands on nature series presented by Gulf State Park Nature Center, Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo, Share the Beach, Orange Beach Wildlife Center, Birmingham Audubon, Gulf Coast Center for Ecotourism and Sustainability, and NUISANCE Group! Kids & adults alike can learn about our ecosystem and interact with the animals that live here. The event is free for all ages from 11am-12pm (arrive 15 minutes early), no RSVP required.

Wednesday's Art al Fresco "A hands on lunch & learn for starving artists of all ages"

Create different works of art & crafts. Enjoy free live demo days with a live chainsaw art demonstration with Jeff Wheelock, learn to sculpt with sand with pros from Sand Castle University, get moving with pedal powered spin art. The fee depends on the program.





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WHAT'S HAPPENING



Optimist Women Fashion Lunch July 27 at Lillian Com. Center

The women of the Optimist Club of Perdido Bay will host the annual Luncheon/Fashion Show on Saturday, July 27 in the Lillian Community Club.

The event will feature the latest in fashions, prizes and homemade dishes provided by the members and their friends.

Cato's will provide the women's fashions. Polo Ralph Lauren Factory Store in Tanger Outlet Mall will dress the men.

Tickets are \$12 each and may be purchased from your favorite Optimist or contact Liz Whitehurst, 251-609-0995, or Sally McKinney, 251-961-2620. Doors will open at noon, with the lunch following at 12:30 p.m. Some tickets will be available at the door, but it is suggested that they be purchased in advance to avoid disappointment.

Proceeds from the event help to provide a variety of programs and special events for local children, including scholarships, essay and oratorical contests, and Christmas and Easter parties for children. In addition, members of the club visit the schools weekly to provide math tutoring, mentoring and to read to kindergarten and first grade students.

Pictured: (clockwise) June Dahlman, Rhonda Link, Carol Burnett, Dottie Mau, Susie Groves and Carolyn Armstrong at last year's fashion show hosted by the Optimist Club of Perdido Bay. This year's event will be held on Saturday, July 27 in Lillian Community Club.

Gulf Shores

- John Lee Sanders: 6; Voyagers Restaurant at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
- Legends in Concert (Bruno Mars, Reba McEntire, Elvis Presley, Whitney Houston, Rod Stewart, Garth Brooks): 7:30 p.m.; Downtown OWA; Foley; 251-369-6100.
- John Brust: 6; The Lobby Bar at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
- Nick Andrews: 6, Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.
- Adam Holt: 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina.
- Jim Parnell: 6, Tacky Jack's, Fort Morgan.
- Big Beach Running Club: 5:30 p.m.; Big Beach Brewery in Gulf Shores; all levels welcome.
- Swing Dancing: 7, American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
- Open Mic: 6; Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.
- Brandon Styles Impressions & Magic Show: 7; OWA Showroom, Foley.
- Karaoke: 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.

- Scott Koehn/Flip Flop Bros: 6:30; Flip-flopers, Orange Beach.
- Danny Grady: 5; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- John Joiner & Friends: 6; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Bingo: 10 a.m.; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- Orange Beach Sportfishing Club: 6 p.m. cocktails; 7 p.m. meeting; downstairs at Tacky Jack's Orange Beach; Info: Jon Perkinson at jwperk13@aol.com.
- Open Mixed Doubles Tennis: 7:15 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.

- 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.; Palmar Room at Craft Farms; all interested women invited to attend; 251-980-5722.
- Perdido Key Rotary Club: 7:30 a.m.; every Wednesday at United Methodist Church Activity Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Road, Pensacola.
- Gulf Shores Lions Club: noon; 2nd & 4th Wednesday; noon; Gulf Shores Adult

Road improvement projects continue in Orange Beach

Leading up to the peak of the beach vacation season during the Fourth of July holiday, traffic relief is always a hot topic in Orange Beach. Following is a rundown of upcoming road improvement projects, including the widening of Canal Road.

Canal Road Eastbound Lane

The Canal Road eastbound lane road construction, between the light at Williams Silvers Parkway and State Highway 161, is expected to begin in the fall of 2019. Completion of this second eastbound lane is anticipated to be in December of 2020, weather permitting. The Alabama Department of Transportation is fully funding this project.

Post-BP oil spill RESTORE Act Multiyear Implementation Plan funding is expected to be provided for the second phase of this project. The second phase is comprised of building a Canal Road - Hwy. 161 bypass south of the McDonald's restaurant within the Orange Avenue right-of-way. The second phase is expected to begin in the fall of 2021.

Wolf Bay Bridge

Construction of the Wolf Bay Bridge is anticipated to begin in 18 months to 2 years. Completion is expected to take 4 to 5 years. Currently, the project is in final roadway and bridge design as well as permit preparation for submittal to the

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Coast Guard.

East Canal Road

The City of Orange Beach has taken ownership of Canal Road east of Hwy. 161 from ALDOT, and improvements are forthcoming thanks to post-BP oil spill RESTORE Act State Implementation Plan funding approved for the project.

With the expected release of funding in the fall of 2019, Canal Road will be widened to three lanes from Hwy. 161 to Wilson Boulevard and a traffic circle will be added on Canal Road, just east of the Adult/Senior Activity Center and public library complex.

The traffic circle is expected to remedy the chronic problem of vehicles doing U-turns to get to businesses on the north side of Canal Road near the Hwy. 161 intersection. The project is expected to begin in the fall of 2019 with completion in the fall of 2020.

Lauder Lane Turn Lane and Traffic Signal

The city is expected to begin construction of a Lauder Lane turn lane onto eastbound Canal Road in the fall of 2019. ALDOT is currently performing a warrant analysis to determine whether the City can fund and install a traffic light at the Lauder Lane/Canal Road intersection. The traffic signal will be programmed to work in sync with the Gulf Bay Road traffic signal.



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Hunting is \$1.8 billion industry in Alabama

There's an old saying that to find a person's passion, follow the money. That apparently is true for Alabama's hunters, who fuel the economies in many parts of the state that need it the most.

To ensure the citizens of the state understand how important hunting is to the state's well-being, both economically and culturally, Hunting Works for Alabama was formed last year to enlist the aid of the business community to spread this important message.

"Hunting Works for Alabama is basically a grass-roots group of people who want to make sure we inform the public about the enormous impact hunters have on our economy," said Tim Wood, one of the four co-chairs of Hunting Works for Alabama. "You're talking about a \$1.8 billion industry in the state. You're talking about \$375 million that people spend on just hunting-related equipment. Travel expenses, hunters are spending about \$405 million a year. That's travel, fuel, food and lodging.

"In the rural part of the state, that is extremely important. The tax dollars and economic benefits in these rural areas, it would be devastating if they didn't have it. You could look at Demopolis, Selma, Camden and Faunsdale and look at the effects on these areas. It would be absolutely devastating."

"Our business has changed," said Wood at the second annual Hunting Works for Alabama meeting at the Civilian Marksmanship Program Talladega range last week. "We used to make money three months out of the year, March, April and May, from selling fertilizer, chemicals and seeds. Now we make our money in September, October and November. The paradigm has absolutely swapped. We're also a sporting goods company that sells firearms. You don't see that at farm stores. We sell hunting apparel. Our focus is on the hunting industry."

According to the latest figures, about 44,000 non-residents hunt in Alabama annually. Because the costs of non-resident licenses are significantly higher than resident licenses, those non-resident sales provide a significant funding source for the Alabama Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. The economic impact from non-resident hunters also ripples throughout the state.

"What I think is so important is the out-of-state dollars coming into the state," Wood said. "You're talking about some of the poorest areas in Alabama in the Black Belt. People travel from all over the United States to go deer hunting in Alabama. These people are paying lodging taxes, buying food and gas, and buying hunting licenses, which supports the Alabama Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. These tax dollars are not just being used by people in the hunting industry. It affects everybody in Alabama. Even the birders benefit from hunting in Alabama because the habitat enhancement made for hunting benefits all wildlife."

Wood also outlines the importance of more hunting opportunities for the general public.

"Hunting leases have become so expensive," he said. "People are having to pay \$15 to \$20 an acre for a place to hunt. The everyday hunter back in the old days didn't pay anything. If you wanted to go hunting, you could go up the road and some farmer or landowner would let you hunt. Those days aren't here anymore.

"That is why it is absolutely critical that programs like Forever Wild and the Wildlife Management Areas from Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries provide the everyday citizen places to hunt and give them a reason to buy hunting licenses. It is crucial that this Division is properly funded."

Chuck Sykes, Director of the Alabama Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division, said that proper funding Wood mentioned can only be realized when people buy hunting licenses.

"We rank seventh in the nation on hunting-related expenditures," Sykes said. "If you're not familiar with the Pittman-Robertson Act, it levies a tax on firearms, ammunition and other hunting equipment. That money goes to Washington, and it's divvied back out to the state wildlife agencies, based on states' hunting license sales, so they have a constant source of funding. For every dollar of hunting licenses sold, Pittman-Robertson matches that with 3 federal dollars, which is a great return on our investment.

"When I first started in 2012, our apportionment was \$8 million. Last year, it was \$18 million. How did that happen? During the previous administration in Washington, people were buying firearms and stocking up on ammunition because they were scared of potential gun legislation. The problem was those same people weren't buying hunting licenses. We can't get to that money unless people buy hunting licenses. So the money that hunters pay into that fund, if we can't sell enough hunting licenses, that money will go to another state. For us to be able to provide goods and services for the people of the state and to help support the economics, we have to have hunting license sales that will allow us to put conservation officers and biologists in the field."

Sykes offered a statistic that stuns just about everybody who hears it. Sykes asks for an estimate on the percentage of Alabama's almost 5 million citizens who buy hunting licenses. The estimate normally ranges from 15 to 50 percent.

"We receive not one penny from the State General Fund. Not one tax dollar goes to provide goods and services," Sykes said. "It's all hunting and fishing licenses. Most people have no idea that only 3.8 percent of Alabama citizens buy hunting licenses. We've got to get that number up if we're going to be competitive. We have to have licenses sold and the dollars from those sales to get to the federal money from Pittman-Robertson."

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

COASTAL WILDLIFE & NATIVE PLANTS

BY JOHN MARSHALL

There are actually 78 species of mullet world-wide

Most residents of the Gulf Coast know that the namesake of this fine publication is not a bad haircut but a species of fish. There are actually 78 species of mullet world-wide, but around here it usually refers to the striped mullet (*Mugil cephalus*). They get their name from the spots on the upper scales that give the appearance of stripes.

Striped mullet can grow to almost four feet in length and 17 pounds, although most are much smaller, averaging just a few pounds. Females are larger and grow faster than males. They are torpedo-shaped and silvery in color on the sides and olive-brown on top. They have two widely spaced dorsal fins and large eyes.

While we think of the striped mullet as a Gulf Coast resident, they have a world-wide distribution in warm temperate and tropical areas. They live in both fresh and saltwater environments, where salinity may vary widely. Mullet exhibit a life style known as catadromous, meaning they spend their adulthood in rivers and estuaries, but migrate out to the ocean to spawn.

When they spawn, female mullet release from one to seven million eggs on the bottom of the ocean, which are fertilized by the males. The eggs are not guarded, and most are eaten by other species. For those eggs that hatch, the young mullet will move back toward the coastal waters to mature. Striped mullet reach maturity at about three years, or around 8-12 inches in length.

Striped mullet feed on plankton (microscopic algae, plants and animals) and detritus (dead stuff). Adult mullet are mostly bottom feeders (like catfish), sucking up sand and silt and consuming the dead and living material in it. Their stomachs are equipped with a gizzard-like segment that help grind up the bottom sediments.

Mullet themselves are eaten by a wide variety of other species, from speckled trout to pelicans to bottle-nosed dolphins. As such, they are an important part of the marine food web.

One way mullet avoid becoming someone else's dinner is their habit of traveling in schools for protection against predators, since large numbers make it difficult for a predator to single out a victim. One of the striped mullet's peculiar habits, leaping out of the water, is sometimes linked to avoiding predator attacks. Scientists think leaping may also be to expose their gills to higher oxygen levels, since coastal waters tend to have low oxygen concentrations. Regardless, leaping is a distinctive mullet trait.

Humans use mullet for both food and as bait to catch other fish. Striped mullet are caught both for sport and commercial purposes. Mullet from fresh water tend to be of poorer quality taste-wise than those from saltwater. Mullet roe (eggs) are also considered a delicacy by some folks.

Because so many species of fish eat mullet, they are a popular bait fish for species such as speckled trout, red fish and even marlin. In some areas, their commercial value as bait exceeds their value as a food source.

In some parts of Lower Alabama (aka LA), striped mullet are not only eaten or used as bait, but also are valued for their "tossability" as the annual Flora-Bama Mullet Toss. This is perhaps one of the most unique characteristics of this species.



RHETT RUSSELL RECEIVES USPTA RECOGNITION: Rhett Russell, a member of the United States Professional Tennis Association, recently received recognition for outstanding participation in the association's continuing education program. Russell, a Foley High School and University of Alabama grad who resides in Orange Beach, AL, was awarded a Level I Certificate of Achievement for earning 10.75 credits in the association's Career Development Program in 2018. "As an association, we know that career development is vital to our tennis-teaching professionals and coaches," said USPTA CEO John Embree. "Through our Career Development Program, we are ensuring all USPTA members are equipped with the knowledge and skills to enhance their careers. As the first and only USTA-accredited Association under the USTA Accreditation Program, to see our members taking advantage of those educational opportunities and striving to earn more than the six-credit requirement personifies a commitment to personal and professional excellence. Pictured: Orange Beach Tennis Center professional Rhett Russell with some of his students.

Sea turtle lighting workshops scheduled in O.B. and G.S.

The Orange Beach Community Center, in partnership with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, will host a Sea Turtle Lighting Workshop from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Thursday, July 11th for all distributors, contractors, property management professionals and homeowners' associations. A Gulf Shores workshop will be held Tuesday, July 9th at the Gulf Shores Activity Center, 260 Clubhouse Drive.

Topics include the problem of light on sea turtle nesting beaches, presented by U.S. Fish & Wildlife; local lighting issues, presented by the City of Orange Beach; Who's, What's, Where's of Wildlife Friendly Lighting, presented by SESCO Lighting. A question and answer session will follow the workshop. The Orange Beach Community Center is at 27235 Canal Road. The Gulf Shores Activity Center is located at 260 Clubhouse Drive. Complimentary snacks and refreshments will be served by Alabama Coastal Catering.

For more information, contact Kristi Spohn at kspohn@sescolighting.com or Susan West at swest@joinACF.org.

Activity Center, 300 E. 16th Avenue; 251-968-2823.

- Storytime at Pensacola Southwest Branch Library: free; infant to 5; 10:30-11; 12238 Old Gulf Beach Hwy; (850)453-7780.
- AA: Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

THU, JULY 18

- 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.
- Tacky Jacks Beach Games: 11 a.m.; relay races, challenges, and brain teasers; participants get a free lunch; Tack Jacks; Gulf Shores.
- Legends in Concert (Bruno Mars, Reba McEntire, Elvis Presley, Whitney Houston, Rod Stewart, Garth Brooks): 7:30 p.m.; Downtown OWA; Foley; 251-369-6100.
- Greg Brown: 2 p.m.; Sassy Bass Amazin' Grill; Ft. Morgan.
- John Martin Davis Band: 6; Pelican Place at Craft Farms, Gulf Shores.
- Jessie Howell: 6; Tacky Jack's, Orange Beach.
- John Lee Sanders: 6; Voyagers Restaurant at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
- Albert Simpson: 5; LuLu's at Homeport Marina.
- John Brust: 6; Lobby Bar at Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
- Tim Roberts: 6:30; Tin Top Restaurant; Bon Secour.
- DJ/Karaoke with LiL BoB: 8; Island Time Daquari; The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- Open Mic: 7; Snapper's; Orange Beach.
- Brandon Styles Impressions & Magic Show: 7; OWA Showroom, Foley.
- Scott Koehn: 5:30; Pleasure Island Tiki Bar, Orange Beach.
- Blind Draw Dart Tourney: 7; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- Foley Garden Club: 3rd Thursday of month, Sept through May at Foley Public Library, second floor meeting room at 12:30 p.m. except when club has field trips; Info: Linda Ford, 251-972-871.
- Karaoke: 10; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- Karaoke: 7; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.
- Smokey & Mark: 7; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Bridge: noon; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- 8 Ball APA: 7:30; The Office, Foley.
- Rotary Club of Gulf Shores/Orange Beach: noon; Gulf Shores Golf Club; visiting Rotarians and guests invited; 251-968-2000.



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ORANGE BEACH CITY COUNCIL

Eight-foot sidewalk would connect from West Oak Ridge to the Sportsplex & school property

By John Mullen

A new sidewalk project by Orange Beach will connect two neighborhoods to the Sportsplex and have some unintended – at its inception anyway – bonuses with connections to the new school campus as well.

“It’s just a great project,” Community Development Director Kit Alexander said. “I love this project. It couldn’t have worked out better. We started this project even before we knew the school was going to happen. It was sort of like serendipity.”

“I love this project. It couldn’t have worked out better. We started this project even before we knew the school was going to happen. It was sort of like serendipity.”

directly through the sidewalk,” Alexander said. “We just built the sidewalk on Lauder Lane and it connects to the sidewalk on Lauder Lane, too. So, if you live in Lauder Place, you’ll be able to connect to the sidewalk and get to the school also.”

Not only does it make those connections but it also connects to the Branyon Backcountry Trail’s 28-mile network. It connects to the Fort Morgan Trail in Gulf Shores and soon, with the completion of a \$4.4 million Restore project, it

will reach all the way to Mobile Bay.

“Having the Oak Ridge sidewalk extension to the Orange Beach Sportsplex is a perfect example of the city’s commitment to connecting our entire community with sidewalks and paths,” Mayor Tony Kennon said.

“Our forward-thinking staff spearheaded the first paved paths in Gulf State Park that have evolved into the Backcountry Trail and it is all coming full circle by tying in our neighborhoods with the entire island’s trail system.”

The city’s traffic problem child is Canal Road, especially during the busy summer season. The state is going put the project to finish five-laning Canal Road out for bid on June 28 with an estimated completion date of December 2020. This sidewalk extension, Kennon said, provides an alternative to the busy thoroughfare for residents.

“This new Oak Ridge sidewalk project runs parallel with Canal Road from Orange Beach Boulevard or Highway 161 westward to our new school location avoiding Canal Road as one of the busiest routes in the county, yet providing the same destinations for users,” Kennon said.

To make the extension happen the city first had to obtain a small right of way to get over to Gulf State Park property and an easement they city used to add an input line to the wastewater treatment plant. The majority of the sidewalk will run atop that easement.

“The First Baptist Church of Bay Minette provided the necessary easement at the west of West Oak Ridge Drive to make the connection to the Gulf State Park property to the south,” Alexander said. “Without this easement, the project would not have happened. We are very appreciative.”

The sidewalk will be eight feet wide and travel about 4,000 feet to William Silvers Parkway. It connects to Lauder Lane with a five-foot sidewalk. Total cost on the entire project is just under \$347,000 and construction is underway.



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OWA's Mystic Mountain opening a memorable day for Magic Moments families

The recent grand opening of The Park at OWA's newest attraction, Mystic Mountain, was also a special day for Magic Moments families, who received free admission to the park and were invited to be the ones to ride on the inaugural ride of the brand new attraction. About 350 children and their family members attended this special day.

Magic Moments is the only wish-granting organization devoted exclusively to children in Alabama with chronic, life-threatening illnesses.

"It is just one of our Beyond the Moment programs throughout the state where we invite our recipients to be a part of special activities, free of charge, throughout the year to keep them connected to our organization and other families in similar situations," said Kimberly Barnett Ether-ton, Magic Moments Mobile Regional Director.

Mystic Mansion, located inside The Park at OWA, is an interactive "dark ride" like nothing the area has seen before.

Although Magic Moments has held reveals at LuLu's Homeport Marina and Foley Elementary School, this is the first time the organization has held a Beyond the Moment event in South Baldwin County.

Through its Beyond the Moment programs, Magic Moments families are invited to participate in regional activities throughout the year. That enables the program devoted to serving children in Alabama, a way to establish lasting relationships with the children and families it serves.

Though Magic Moments can't grant more than one magic moment to a child, it can do is make sure that child and family become a permanent part of our family.

"OWA was absolutely incredible," Ether-ton said. "They gave all the children and their families free admission to the park and lunch vouchers as

well as refillable water bottles and OWA draw-string backpacks they could take home with them.

"I have heard nothing but positive feedback from the families," she added. "It was an awesome day for everyone."

Ether-ton said the next Magic Moments event in South Alabama is a magic show at St. Luke's School in Mobile on Oct. 13. That fundraiser is open to the public.

Mystic Mansion riders hop into four person "Doom Buggies" for interactive game-play and frightfully fun characters. Riders "blast" with a ghost-blaster as riders compete for the highest score.

Guests are greeted by Professor Phearstruck in the queue line for an explanation of the history of Mystic Mansion, its curse and who haunts it now. There are 15 different scenes in which the Mansion's ghost could appear! Riders will heed the warning of the Professor, then hop in a Doom Buggy at their own risk to weave their way around this haunting yet family-friendly attraction, complete with neon colors, black lights, and a spooky storyline featuring the main ghost, Boocifer.

"Mystic Mansion is truly one-of-a-kind for The Park," said Kristin Hellmich, director of marketing at OWA. "We searched long and hard for what would be the next addition to our amusement park, and this particular attraction checked every box. We wanted something new, different and unheard of in this area. It is the perfect family-friendly addition to our growing Park."

For more info about The Park at OWA in Foley, go to VisitOWA.com. For more info about Magic Moments, visit magicmoments.org.

Pictured: Magic Moments families enjoying a day in the park compliments of The Park at OWA.



Waterfront boardwalk completed at Coastal Art Center

The shoreline stabilization and boardwalk project at the Coastal Arts Center Of Orange Beach on Wolf Bay is complete. Future plans to extend the boardwalk to the Wind and Water Learning Center to the west will depend on permitting to allow work along the shoreline, according to O.B. Public Works Director Tim Tucker.



Nagini released near Perdido Pass after 16 days of rehab

An injured juvenile Kemp's ridley, now named Nagini, was rescued on June 4 by Mike Reynolds and John Butterick of Share the Beach, and released on June 20 around an excited crowd at Shell Beach near Perdido Pass in Orange Beach. Share the Beach, Alabama's Sea Turtle Conservation Program, was contacted by an angler after Nagini was accidentally hooked. The circle hook was safely removed by Gulfarium Care staff. See the video of Nagini's release on the City of Orange Beach's Facebook page. For more information on Share the Beach, visit alabamaseaturtles.com.

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Flounder fried or broiled: \$9.99

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GSP's Eagle Cottages gain National Geographic recognition

By David Rainer

AL Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources

Already a beacon of sustainability, education and eco-tourism, Alabama's Gulf State Park is again at the forefront of providing visitors with much more than the traditional "toes in the sand" experience.

In fact, the ultimate compliment has been bestowed on Gulf State Park's Eagle Cottages by National Geographic with a Unique Lodges of the World designation, the only such recognition for any facility east of the Rocky Mountains in the U.S.

The Unique Lodges program is a highly selective process. Only 56 properties worldwide are included in the program. Only six other properties are in the United States, two in Alaska and four in the West.

Already a beacon of sustainability, education and eco-tourism, Alabama's Gulf State Park is again at the forefront of providing visitors with much more than the traditional "toes in the sand" experience.

diversity.

"This will not only be good for the Gulf State Park and the Alabama Gulf Coast, but people also will learn that we have the largest artificial reef program in the world. They will learn how special the Bon Secour Wildlife Refuge and the Mobile-Tensaw Delta are. They will also learn that Alabama is No. 1 in aquatic biodiversity."

Commissioner Blankenship further highlighted the great range of special places in Alabama, from the river shoals that feature the Cahaba lily in Bibb County, to the Red Hills salamander habitat in Monroe County, to the beauty of the Paint Rock River Valley in north Alabama.

"Working with National Geographic has been great. They did not realize what a wonderful place the Mobile-Tensaw Delta is until they came for some site visits," he said. "Then they looked at other opportunities in the area that included the Grand Bay Savanna and Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge. It was an eye-opening experience for them."

"We think it will be that way for so many people around the world once National Geographic starts to promote the Eagle Cottages. I can't express how big this is for Alabama as a whole."

Chandra Wright, Director of Environmental and Educational Initiatives at The Lodge at Gulf State Park, said the Eagle Cottages program is one aspect of the overall Gulf State Park (GSP) Project. The vision statement of Gulf State Park reads: "Gulf State Park will be an international benchmark for environmental and economic sustainability, demonstrating best practices for outdoor recreation, education and hospitable accommodations." "A typical National Geographic traveler is looking for

property committed to taking care of the environment, taking care of the resources, taking care of the local communities and making sure we preserve those assets for the future," Wright said. "It also includes immersing the traveler in the local culture. We're targeting a slightly different traveler than we normally target in coastal Alabama."

With the Unique Lodges designation, Gulf State Park will have access to National Geographic resources, including training to elevate the visitor experience.

"Our staff who undergo that training will be able to promote themselves as a National Geographic guide," Wright said. "We'll be working with National Geographic to bring additional programs to the park. It's exciting to see what's going to happen over the next few years."

"The 11 cottages fit in the concept of a National Geographic Unique Lodge, which is focused on an international traveler who wants to really engage in the local community," Wright said. "That includes local history, local nature, cultural heritage and really getting to know the community."

Almost a year ago, a 'freshening' of the facilities started that included painting, adding new furniture and replacing artwork that better reflected the local environment and heritage.

"We established a theme that the communities of Gulf Shores and Orange Beach grew up around, which was a fishing community," Wright said. "So, we thought about the old fish camps that were up on stilts. That's how the original structures were based."

"We had to figure out how to translate that concept to Eagle Cottages. We rebranded and made more of an authentic Alabama fish camp experience but also worked in some additional sustainability features. All the light fixtures were replaced with LED bulbs. Appliances are being replaced with more energy efficient models. We're embracing some of the things we're doing at The Lodge, but also we're testing some concepts at the cottages that may translate later to the 350-room Lodge."

One aspect that makes the Eagle Cottages so special is the goal of providing a personalized guest experience, Wright said.

"We're putting packages together where we can get to know our guests on an individual basis," she said. "When we find out what their interests are, we can steer them to some personalized experiences. One of the things we talk about is the amount of biodiversity on the Alabama Gulf Coast. We have relationships with outfitters in the Mo-

bile-Tensaw Delta, at Dauphin Island, down at Fort Morgan as well as Gulf Shores-Orange Beach. This allows us to get people out to have a more intimate experience through kayaking, fishing or going on Delta tours.

"If they want to know about our local artists and artisans, we can set them up with a tour of the Coastal Arts Center in Orange Beach and give them the opportunity to take a glass-blowing class or a clay-throwing class, so they get to know some of the local people and engage in a hands-on experience."

Because of this enriched visitor experience, the GSP Project team reached out to Costas Christ, a National Geographic (NatGeo) travel editor who advises NatGeo on sustainable tourism.

A friend of famed biologist, naturalist, author and native Alabamian E.O. Wilson, Christ was somewhat familiar with Alabama but had no idea of the vastness of the natural wonders that make Alabama special.

"Costas didn't really appreciate our wealth of biodiversity until we got him to come down in December of 2017," Wright said. "He spent three days in coastal Alabama, and we tried to give him a crash course in everything we have to offer. We took him around Gulf Shores, Orange Beach and Fort Morgan. We took him to Bird and Robinson islands. We took him to Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge to showcase our biodiversity, our Native American history, our Civil War history, and we convinced him that we were worthy of National Geographic coming into the park. He has been helping us on how to transition these cottages into something that would be worthy of National Geographic selection. Christ has visited coastal Alabama every four months since December 2017, and he explores a different section of coastal Alabama on each visit."

"We took him to see the Delta by boat. We took him to Mobile to see a portion of the African American Heritage Trail. He had no idea we had that amount of African American heritage in our area. That got National Geographic interested in finding the Clotilda (considered the last American slave ship), which was recently discovered. He was blown away by our natural biodiversity and our cultural heritage that people around the South, around the United States and around the world have no idea about. This gives us an opportunity to educate people worldwide on what we have to offer."

One way Eagle Cottages' management and Wright have reached out to visitors is through an afternoon manager's reception at the Eagle Cottages office, called the Eagle's Nest. Coastal Alabama-specific snacks, sweet tea and lemonade provided by the park's Woodside Restaurant are served as Cottages manager Mark Larkin and Wright interact with the guests about what coastal Alabama has to offer. More info: eaglecottagesatgsp.com.



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PICTURES OF THE WEEK



Rocket (Basset Hound) enjoying a day on the boat from Phillip Hilley of Gulf Shores.



"Grabbing Lunch at the Gulf State Park Fishing Pier," writes Terry Miklouchich.



Passion Flower & Pitcher Plant from Dave Garnecky of Gulf Shores.



A Lagoon sunrise from Steve Ward.



From Grace Williams.



Larry DeRousse of Memphis shares a Ft. Morgan memory.



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AROUND TOWN

South Bald. Literacy Council Trivia Night Aug. 9

The South Baldwin County Literacy Council will hold its annual trivia night fundraiser at the Foley Civic Center on Aug. 9. Doors open at 5 p.m., and trivia begins at 6:30 p.m. The theme this year is "Your Favorite Book." Supporters are welcome to decorate your table and dress in costumes to represent the book. There will be prizes for best decorated table/costumes. Each table can have up to eight players. Sponsor a table for \$160 by calling 251-943-7323. There will be 10 rounds of trivia, a silent auction, pick-a-pot, a live auction, and "heads or tails" rounds. Bring your own food and drinks for the night of fun.



Shocking picture of road rage incident in the middle of Fairhope

This is not the kind of picture you would expect to see taken in downtown Fairhope at any time of the day, let alone at 2 p.m. on a weekday afternoon. But that is the Shell gas station at the intersection of Fairhope Ave. and Hwy. 98 (Greeno Rd.) in the background. And that is a man, Maurice King Mayo, 23, of Mobile, pointing a gun at another man, later identified as Windell Earl Robinson, 54, of Daphne, standing on the hood of a car in which Mayo was a passenger and his pregnant fiancée was driving. A witness took the picture, which has since been widely circulated on social media and media websites.

The road rage incident occurred on June 17 when, after both men exited their vehicles, Robinson jumped onto the hood and kicked out the windshield of Mayo's car. According to Mayo's report to Fairhope Police, Robinson was holding a can of mace while standing on the hood of his car. Mayo retrieved a gun from his vehicle and pointed it at Robinson, who then fled the scene.

The gun was purchased legally, but Mayo was arrested for carrying a pistol without a concealed permit after calling police. He said he spent roughly an hour in jail before he was released without bail. Robinson fled the scene, but later turned himself in to Fairhope Police and was arrested for third-degree criminal mischief.

"He was spitting foam out of his mouth. He was in a rage," Mayo told Gulf Coast Media's Allison Marlow. "I don't want to hurt this guy, but I don't want him to mace me. When I backed up behind the car, he instantly stopped and ran back to his car."

Robinson told Fairhope Police that Mayo exited his vehicle and kicked the rear of his vehicle. Robinson told police that he left the scene because Mayo had a gun pointed at him and Robinson's 12-year-old daughter was in the vehicle.

Mayo told Gulf Coast Media that he was thankful that a witness was able to shoot a picture of Robinson standing on the hood of his car and thankful for the professionalism shown by Fairhope Police.



Whitehaven Insurance's work with Camp Seale Harris results in \$10,000 grant to support program

Safeco Insurance awarded Whitehaven Insurance Services of Gulf Shores a \$5,000 Make More Happen Award to further along Whitehaven's commitment to improving their local community through volunteer work with Camp Seale Harris, a camp where hundreds of youths with diabetes gather together each year for a summer camp experience. Camp Seale Harris' mission is to educate, encourage, and empower children with diabetes and their families to live well.

The award includes a \$5,000 donation will assist with funds to send children to the camp. In addition, Whitehaven received an additional \$5,000 for Camp Seale Harris by garnering more than 250 likes, comments or shares on social media from June 26-July 2, bringing their total donation to \$10,000.

Whitehaven Insurance's Dora Hartsock has led the company's work with Camp Seale Harris in a very personal way.

In 1997, Hartsock's daughter suddenly fell ill—at the doctor's office, her blood sugar was so high it didn't register on the meter, and she was airlifted to the nearest major hospital.

Shortly thereafter, 8-year-old Bridgette tragically passed away from complications of diabetes. She had never been diagnosed with the disease.

"I needed to do something," Hartsock said. "So I called the local office of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation and asked how I could get involved. I helped with fundraisers and talked about my experience. And then I met someone from Camp Seale Harris."

The Birmingham organization, founded in 1949, is far more than a camp—although it does host overnight week-long sessions, day camps, and family weekends at sites throughout the state. Each year, 650 kids with diabetes and their families, about 2,000 people in total, participate in camps, support groups and community diabetes walks.

"Camp Seale Harris is not just a place on a map," explained Rhonda McDavid, executive director. "It's a year-round shared experience and community."

Hartsock is not just a supporter, either. A personal lines account manager for Whitehaven, she has volunteered for 20 years at various camps; every year she is at the seven-day Coastal Camp, assists with Family Camp Weekend, and plans the activities (including camp favorite "Dancing with Dora,"). She's also a member of the Camp Seale Harris Board of Directors. Children and adults alike love Dancing with Dora at Camp Seale Harris!

It's vital work. In Alabama alone, more than 3,000 children live with the disease. And it's not uncommon

for victims to go undiagnosed for years, as Hartsock's daughter did.

"It happens a lot more than you would think," she said. "Children get sick, go to the doctor, and only then find out they are diabetic."

Once a child is diagnosed, it's important for families to learn about the disease as well, McDavid noted. "We provide knowledge and training on care management, healthy eating, and consistent physical activity," she said. "Our mission is to educate, encourage, and empower children with diabetes and their families to live well."

Hartsock's daughter Bridgette created possibilities for others, too. Her organs were donated, with her heart going to a then-seven-year-old girl who just turned 29.

"My daughter is still an inspiration," Hartsock said, "and using that inspiration to impact others means the world to me."

Whitehaven Insurance has its own mission of giving, too. Several employees volunteer with Camp Seale Harris and support other local nonprofits. The agency even provides paid time off for volunteer efforts.

That dedication to community has earned a Safeco Make More Happen Award, and the \$10,000 to Camp Seale Harris on behalf of Whitehaven. As many as 20 kids could attend a weeklong camp for that amount.

"With the support of Whitehaven Insurance, we keep moving closer to our goal of making sure every child with diabetes in Alabama can experience our camps," McDavid said. "Dora and her colleagues help make Camp Seale Harris possible for these children."

Pictured: (Top) Whitehaven Insurance Services CEO Bruce White serves food; White, COO Scott Harris and Dora with other camp volunteers; (Above) Scott Harris, COO of Whitehaven; Bruce White, CEO of Whitehaven; Dora Hartsock, Agent at Whitehaven; Rhonda McDavid, Executive Director at Camp Seale Harris; Brian Boughton, Safeco Territory Manager; (Below) Dora Hartsock and campers during Dancing with Dora Night at Camp Seale Harris.



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