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SURVIVING SALLY AT PERDIDO KEY OYSTER BAR MARINA: 30 BOATS LOST; MANY LIVES CHANGED

COVERAGE ON PAGES 8-18



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AROUND TOWN

Gulf Shores Waterway Village Art Crawl planned on Oct. 10

To honor the Annual Shrimp Festival, which would have been the second weekend in October, local coastal artists have banded together to present the Waterway Village Art Crawl in Gulf Shores, October 10 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Artists will be set up at the Gulf Coast Arts Alliance, 225 E 24th Ave.; Blue Girl Beading, 2200 E 2nd St, Suite F; Tino's Fine Art and Frame Shop, 2200E 2nd St, Suite H; Big Beach Brewery, 300 E 24th Ave.; and Acme Oyster House, 216 E 24th Ave., all in the Waterway Village District of Gulf Shores, Al. Several artists will be at each location and a map will be given to visitors directing them to the next location. All will be within walking distance.

This event should be a one-of-a-kind opportunity to buy original art from local artists, plus, there may be some free giveaways at different locations.

The Waterway Village Art Crawl will adhere to COVID guidelines with all vendors wearing masks and there will be hand-sanitizing sites at all locations.

Oct. 10 Tailgate Toss at Wharf's Sandshaker, Island Time

The Tailgate Toss presented by Island Time Daiquiris, Sandshaker and POUR Smart Bar will be held on Saturday, October 10 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at The Wharf in Orange Beach. It'll be the ultimate party featuring a cornhole tournament, drink specials, local bands, and football on all of the indoor/outdoor, big-screen TVs. Bring your friends for a good time and some friendly cornhole competition. Sign-up for the tournament will be at Island Time Daiquiris; Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams.

Gulf Coast Musicians Medical Fundraiser set for October 24

By Michelle Bridges

Saturday, October 24 will be the date for the 3rd Annual Gulf Coast Musicians Medical Fund fundraiser at The Point Restaurant in Pensacola, Florida. GCMMFund is a 501(c)3 formed in 2018 to fill a need for Gulf Coast musicians and songwriters with financial assistance for medical care.

The idea and concept for the charity came about after a Gulf Coast musician & songwriter, Webb Dalton lost three fellow musician friends over minor health issues that became major health issues due to lack of medical care.

"Most musicians and songwriters live gig to gig and don't have the extra money to go to the minor med to get checked if they aren't feeling well. GCMMFund pays for the minor med office visit and prescriptions associated with that visit at no cost to the musician or songwriter," he said. "The charity has been used by dozens of Gulf Coast musicians since its inception because of the generosity of others."

Webb was on the road for several years and has played music for over four decades, opening for George Strait, Garth Brooks, Randy Travis and others. He has recorded four CDs over the years. The latest CD is a gospel CD called "Things Left Undone" that is available through digital distribution sites and through GCMMF.ORG, with all proceeds from sales going to support Gulf Coast Musicians Medical Fund.

In normal times, the fundraiser has been a two-day event, on two separate stages (indoor & outdoor) with local entertainment running from noon until 10 p.m. both days. But this year, due to Covid, and social distancing suggestions, the fundraiser will only be a one day event with entertainment on the Courtyard stage from noon until 10 p.m. The fundraiser is planning to return to its two day, two stage schedule in 2021. Admission for the all-day event is \$10 and donations are appreciated. Tickets can be purchased at GCMMF.ORG and also on the day of the event.

A raffle will be held and other fun activities are scheduled.



Gulf Shores City Council runoff election now slated for Oct. 27

The City of Gulf Shores Municipal Runoff Election, originally scheduled on Oct. 6, will be held on Tuesday, October 27, 2020.

Gulf Shores City Council, after discussing the logistics of combining the municipal runoff and the general election with Secretary of State John Merrill and Baldwin County Election Officials, decided that the process for holding two separate elections on the same day would be problematic.

Incumbants Joe Garris and Gary Sinak faced multiple candidates in the August election and will face off against respective candidates Bill Coyne and Michelle Stancil in the runoff.

During the Aug. 28 municipal election, Philip Harris was unopposed while Steve Jones and Jason Dyken retrained their seats against strong

opposition. Mayor Robert Craft was also re-elected in August.

Garris received 1,265 votes and Coyne 1,012 votes for place 2 in the August election. Sinak took 1,232 votes and Stancil 744 votes for place 2.

Gulf Shores voters north of the Intracoastal Canal vote at the Cultural Center on County Road 6. Residents living south of the Intracoastal vote at the Erie H. Meyer Civic Center.

Absentee ballots can be mailed or hand-delivered to City Clerk Wanda Parris at 203 Clubhouse Dr. or mailed to Box 299, Gulf Shores, Al 36547. Absentee ballots are available online at alabamavotes.gov. Absentee applications must be received by Thursday, Oct. 20.

Pictured: (l to r) Joe Garris, Gary Sinak, Joe Coyne, Michelle Stancil.

Gulf State Park Pier succumbs to Sally's surge; state hopes to open standing section soon

By David Rainer

Al. Dept. of Con. & Nat. Resources

One aspect of living on Alabama's beautiful Gulf Coast is the realization that the best-laid plan is no match for Mother Nature.

The original plan was to gather on September 16 at the Gulf State Park Pier to celebrate the grand reopening of the 1,542-foot pier after a \$2.4 million renovation.

But Hurricane Sally made landfall in Gulf Shores in the early hours of September 16 as a strong Category 2 hurricane with winds clocked at 105 mph. A wind-speed detector on a nearby tower clocked a 121-mph gust.

I soon got word through the little cell service available that the northern Gulf Coast's premier fishing and educational pier, which opened in 2009 after Ivan razed the previous pier, had succumbed to the constant battering of Sally's surge.

The section of pier closest to the end octagon was gone. The majority of the blowout deck panels were scattered all along the sugar-sand shoreline.

The good news is the new Lodge at Gulf State Park and nearby structures were relatively unscathed because those buildings were designed to withstand winds of up to 150 mph.

"The damage to the pier is the most obvious that everybody has seen on TV and had the most questions about. We were very surprised by the amount of damage to the pier," said Chris Blankenship, Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. "But I was pleasantly surprised by how the dune system held up on the beach. And the Lodge at Gulf State Park, which was built to fortified building standards, fared very well during the storm."

Commissioner Blankenship said divers are scheduled to assess the damage to the pier and determine the structural integrity of the remaining pilings.

"After that is finished, we will be able to make plans to get the pier reopened at least to the part where it

broke off while we repair the entire structure back out to the octagon," he said.

Greg Lein, Alabama State Parks Director, said the good news about the pier is that the staff has been able to recover more than 200 of the deck panels that are designed to blow out to protect the infrastructure.

"They found some about 4 miles down the beach," Lein said. "A couple were found in swimming pools down there. It's amazing our crew has been able to recover so many panels. The pier will be inspected. If it's structurally okay, we'll be able to put a lot of those panels back, and we may be able to reopen a portion of the pier," he said.

Lein said strike teams were formed several years ago in each district of the State Parks system to assist in natural disasters. The teams are comprised of employees capable of running chainsaws, skid steers, backhoes and tractors.

Pictured: A section of the newly renovated Gulf State Park Pier is gone after a battering by Hurricane Sally.





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Sally destroys vintage 1950's Beach House in Fort Morgan

The Butterfly House survived Camille, Frederic, Ivan, Katrina

By Fran Thompson

A historic Fort Morgan home with a unique past, distinguishable by its hyperbolic paraboloid roof, was destroyed during Sept. 16's Hurricane Sally near dawn landfall.

Between its locations on Little Lagoon and in Fort Morgan, the home, dubbed The Butterfly House, had survived Hurricanes Camille, Frederic, Ivan and Katrina.

The Category 2 Sally swept the beachfront home from its pilings near the corner of Triple Tail & PonceDeLeon at mile marker 4 on Ft. Morgan Rd.

The unique roof is a double ruled surface with vertical cross sections that are parabolas, and horizontal cross sections that are hyperbolas. A Pringle potato chip is an example of a hyperbolic paraboloid

"I haven't seen another roof that looks like it," said Glenn Richardson, whose family has owned the home since 1959, around five years after it was designed and built by renowned Mobile architect Arch Winter in a style that has since been deemed modern vintage.

The home originally sat on arguably Gulf Shores' most spectacular parcel between two still standing oak trees that Glenn Richardson climbed as a child.

Nestled on a peninsula yards north of Little Lagoon Pass, the parcel is now home to Compass Point Condos. The Richardsons sold the land to the developers following Hurricane Ivan.

"The original owner was pretty famous in the 1950's as an early modernist architect," said Glenn, himself an architect with degrees from Auburn and UVA.

Glenn's parents purchased their first Gulf Shores vacation home in 1955, four years before they bought The Butterfly House.

The family of seven, Glenn's father, an MD, on

the weekends, left their Columbus, GA home to spend summers in Gulf Shores throughout Glenn's childhood.

Glenn had a crabbing business that he operated from the beach in front of the house in the 1960's, selling his catch to local restaurants

"It was real tight with seven people. But we had cots and pallets we would pull out from under the beds. I do remember how hot it could get without AC. But it was a great," Glenn said.

The Compass Point developers preserved the two oak trees when they bought the land from the Richardsons.

The family then moved the home to mile marker 4, where Glenn built an addition using the hyperbolic paraboloid design for the roof that doubled the home's original 24' by 24' size.

With an open concept kitchen and living room, the Butterfly House afforded simultaneous views of ships in the bay and dolphins in the Gulf. It also featured original rare heart pine floors.

Glenn's mother Fay gave the home its name even before the Richardsons bought it. Its sloping roof lines evoked the wings of a butterfly, said Glenn's wife Kendra.

"It was the only modern vintage home around here," Kendra said. "My husband's grief is mostly over the loss of the architecture. It had its original jalousie windows from the early 1950's."

Kendra, who retired after 25 years of teaching in Selma schools, and Glenn went on a blind date when she was at Alabama and he was at Auburn 35 years ago. They reconnected at a mutual friend's daughter's wedding. The same mutual friend who arranged the blind date. They have been married for five years.

Kendra relays a story that the house is home to the ghost of a local character and family

friend named KP Morgan, who died this past February in the home.

KP believed that his ancestors founded Fort Morgan and that he was related to the Captain Morgan who had a rum named after him.

Kendra said one of KP's last sentences was, 'Aint it pretty?'

"We never believed him about his ancestors. But he believed it," she said. "He was looking at the Gulf from the beach when he dropped dead."

"He was drinking a beer and watching the dunes when he died," she added. "We all believe that as hard as the loss was for us, it was poetic justice that he died in that house."

The Butterfly House pilings and hardwood floors and supports held strong through Sally, but the Richardsons will have to rebuild to current construction codes.

Kendra does hope they can use some of the remaining materials to build a sundeck and changing room in homage to KC, as she suspects his ghost may remain in the place he loved so dearly.

She and Glenn already have a home that Glenn built farther from the Gulf on Fort Morgan. And yes, that also includes a hyperbolic paraboloid roof.

Glenn and Kendra, whose father was from Mobile, both have deep connections to Pleasure Island.

"It was natural for us to both land here. We love it more now than we ever did," she said.

They plan to rebuild as soon as possible, and the new home will be more in the modern style.

"We plan to make it simple and inexpensive because things on the beach get washed away," Glenn said.

"It was like being in a tree house at the beach," Kendra said. "You could see boats passing in the bay from one window and the surf crashing from another window. It was just an awesome spot."

"I guess Glenn wants to build back bigger and stronger. I know we want to give every bedroom a view and a balcony," she added.

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SURVIVING SALLY AT PERDIDO KEY OYSTER BAR MARINA

Chris Harper was, thankfully, already an experienced swimmer

By Fran Thompson

Chris Harper's son, Adam Harper, posted on a gofundme page that when he was growing up he and his brothers would ask his dad what particular triathlon or Ironman event he was training for. Chris would reply that he was "training for life."

That turned out to be startlingly prophetic when Harper found himself riding out Sept. 16's Hurricane Sally on a boat at the Perdido Key Oyster Bar Marina.

Just like the 30 boats docked at the marina, Harper took a beating during the storm. But thanks to what he said was the grace of God and his physical fitness - in that order - he did not join his sailboat and a vast majority of the marina's other vessels either at the bottom of the Intra-coastal Waterway or piled against the shore.

He did suffer major ligament and structural damage to his shoulder. That will be an issue going forward. But the rest of his cuts, bruises and abrasions are healing nicely. His hands are no longer purple and blue.

Eventually the 61-year-old will get back to his active lifestyle that has always included riding a bicycle along the beach road, swimming a couple of miles a week in the Intra-coastal Waterway and fishing for blackfin sharks on his kayak by the second sandbar in the Gulf.

Harper has lived on his 41 foot sailboat, Due South, for the past 18 months. But he has been around boats and the water for 40 years. He had already ridden out two tropical storms. He had no issue with riding out a third on Due South.

The owner of the 56-foot Sea Ray that was docked next to him phoned around dusk to say there was a checkpoint at the Theo Baars Bridge and police were preventing him from returning to Perdido Key. He suggested that Harper ride the storm out on the more comfortable Sea Ray, which would still allow him to keep an eye on his own vessel.

Even as the wind picked up and swells increased throughout the early evening, Harper was not concerned.

By 1 a.m. on Sept. 16, the water in the marina had risen above the

boardwalk adjacent to his boat. But all the marina's boats remained securely tied. If this was the extent of the storm, he would be fine.

But it was not. The situation got exponentially worse in a hurry.

Waves began crashing over the Sea Ray and the boat listed. He knew it was going to sink and he should not be aboard when it did.

So he grabbed onto an adjacent pier pole and planned his next move. He felt like he could have rode out the storm on that pole until the waves started breaking way over his head and, in some cases, pounded his head into the pole. It might have been when a wave sent him swinging from one side of the pole to the other that he separated his shoulder.

"The waves were throwing me around pretty hard," he said. "But I didn't want to let go."

Three different times Harper thought he was going to drown that night. "The first was when I was ripped from the pole, but I was able to hold onto some galvanized nails," he said.

He could see a blue flashlight shining from one of the condos on the marina's westside around 30 yards

away. But following that beacon to shore through the churning water and raging current was not a good option. Winds were already blasting above 100 MPH.

By then, the only visible part of the abandoned Sea Ray was its black hull. His own boat was well secured and doing pretty well until the poles holding up the dock came loose.

Eventually, Harper decided to let go of the pole and swim with the current through the marina to the first floor of the Oyster Bar Restaurant. He thinks this was around 3 a.m. While making his way among the debris, he had his second two brushes with death when he was pulled twice under the water by what he suspects was an undertow.

"The undertow really wanted to take me down," he said. "I still had my tennis shoes on and I didn't want to lose my shoes. But I knew it was either kick them off or I would drown."

He eventually made it to the restaurant and scrambled up as far as he could into a corner on the northwest side.

He was still in the water, and boats, including his own, were crashing

into the marina in front of him. At one point, he was almost crushed by his friend's 33 foot Morgan.

If all this wasn't bad enough, he was constantly being stung by jellyfish and struck by rain pellets.

"It felt like somebody was shooting me in the back with a BB gun," he said.

Harper said he was able to hang onto a PVC pipe conduit with a nipple to secure himself in place in the corner of the restaurant. But he was still in the water and dodging boats that were slamming into each other right in front of him.

"I remember saying to myself 'this not a good place to be,'" he said.

There was debris everywhere. Snapped pier poles, fiberglass, pvc pipes, garbage and diesel fuel were flying and floating all around him. Plus, it was pitch black. Almost as unbearable was the constant and deafening noise, as all of the above crashed together in the howling wind.

"I would duck my head under the water just to get away from the noise," he said.

This was no safe haven. He knew he needed another option. So, separated shoulder and all, he let go of the pvc conduit and grabbed onto a piece of floating dock that he was somehow able to climb upon.



He laid down on his back and tried to remain calm.

“I just tried to breathe and rest,” he said. “I don’t think I ever panicked.”

He followed the current out into the Intracoastal Waterway on his plank hoping to get to the Perdido Key RV Park & Marina under the Theo Baars Bridge.

Instead he ended up near one of the bridge’s tenders and, thanks to a utility ladder he found on the backside, was able to pull himself up out of the water with just his one arm.

“All I remember thinking during those moments was that I didn’t want to drown. I’ve been on the water for almost 40 years swimming and fishing. I said ‘God, find something else for me do to. Don’t let me drown.’”

With dry land under him for the first time since he jumped off of the Sea Ray around three hours prior, he knew he had survived the storm. His next step was to wait for daylight.

At sunrise, he noticed activity at the RV Park, located about 50 yards straight across the Intracoastal Waterway. He called out for help.

Josh McGee, a former Green Beret, eventually came to his rescue by sending a roped kayak towards him. The kayak flipped, but Harper grabbed onto the tow rope and used the kayak like a knee board. He screamed for those on shore to pull harder when he started going under again in the strong current. The tow team went into overdrive.

When he got to the RV park landing, McGee told him he was sorry to tell him that he had to walk through a bed of thorns. “I said that couldn’t possibly hurt as much as some of the stuff I went through,” Harper said.

The McGee family brought Harper a jug of water, some cranberry juice and dry clothes. Another RVer brought him more clothing. His hands had long ago turned blue and purple. His shoulder was a mess. He was probably in shock and definitely dehydrated. But all that pain let him know he was alive.

McGee said he obviously needed medical attention and the two men left in McGee’s Ford truck to find it. They were turned away at three

local emergency care centers either because his injuries were judged non-life threatening or there was no electricity at the clinic.

“We were getting frustrated. I can absolutely tolerate a lot of pain, but this was unbearable,” Harper said.

Finally, the two men went behind the bed of McGee’s pickup and McGee popped his shoulder back into place.

“He had to do it three or four times. But it didn’t hurt nearly as bad as the dislocation,” Harper said.

A couple of days of rest at his sister’s home in Navarre and a visit to a medical center over that way had him feeling much better.

“Everything good started happening for me once I got out of the water,” he said. “Josh and his precious family did everything possible to help a fellow human being that Josh had never met in his life.”

Harper’s life has continued to mend since then. One son found him an apartment in Spanish Fort. There were two \$100 restaurant certificates donated by samaritans waiting for him when he arrived. His daughter arranged for furniture. Adam started the gofundme page for him.

“From the minute I got out of the water, the goodness I found in people to make all of this happen was unbelievable,” he said. “A lot of people have less than I do. I will be OK.”

Even his near death experience did not keep Harper out of the water for long.

Just a few days afterwards, he was helping his friend transport a boat to the Palafox Street Pier in Pensacola. “I was sitting in a recliner below and somebody said, ‘Harper, you must be out of your mind to be out here,’ and I said ‘as long as Ed Harrison is driving, I know we will be fine,’ and I took a nap.

“I loved living on my boat,” he added. “I would see manatees and dolphin swimming. I had the best views of sunsets and sunrises. I don’t know if I will live on another boat. But I will go riding on boats with other people. Absolutely.”

As for his hurricane story, Harper reflected on the three times he came close to dying during the ordeal.

“All I remember thinking during those moments was that I didn’t want to drown. I’ve been on the water for almost 40 years swimming and fishing. I said, ‘God, find something else for me do to. Don’t let me drown.’”

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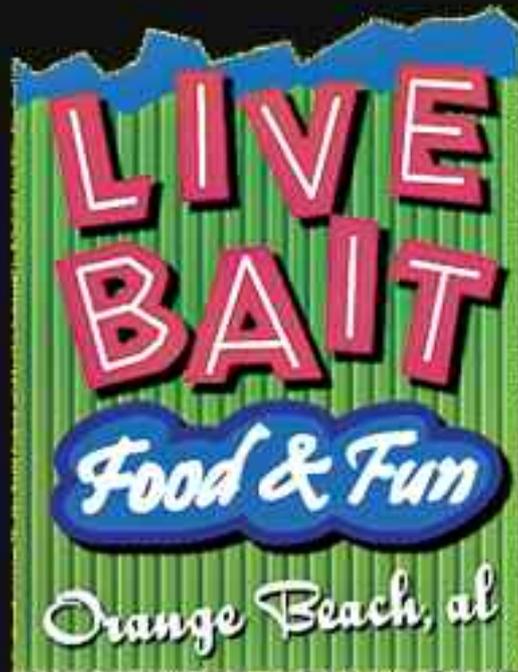
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SURVIVING SALLY AT PERDIDO KEY OYSTER BAR MARINA

Letting go was never an option for Tony Williamson

By Fran Thompson

A native of Eight Mile and a Saraland resident, 52-year-old Tony Williamson knows all about Gulf Coast hurricanes.

He was vacationing with his family in Orlando when he first started

“I never thought I was not going to be able to hang on. That wasn’t even an option.”

tracking Hurricane Sally as a tropical storm heading for Louisiana.

When he noticed the storm was veering eastward, he and his family decided to cut their vacation short so he could secure the 48-foot

Ocean Yacht he has kept at The Perdido Key Oyster Bar Marina for three of the six years he has owned the boat.

Williamson arrived at the marina around 1 p.m. on Sept. 15 and decided to stay the night, as winds were already gusting and he did not want his vessel to break loose from its moorings and crash into another boat at the packed marina.

Winds continued to gust after sunset, but Williamson still felt secure when he checked in with his wife back in Saraland just after 1 a.m. the following morning.

In a matter of 20 minutes that all changed. The fierce waves that were crashing against the boat’s stern were now coming up over the stern. His bulge pump was not keeping pace, and it wasn’t even close.

The boat was going to sink in a matter of minutes, and it was breaking apart section by section and chunk by chunk. He even saw a refrigerator from his galley bobbing in the surf below him.

Jumping blindly overboard into water flowing around him like level 5 rapids was not an option. He would be swept away.

He knew his boat was taller than the water was deep at the marina. At first, he thought he might be able to climb to the top of the boat

and cling to the fly bridge and still be above water after it sank. But that was before the boat disintegrated right before his eyes in Sally’s category 2 winds.

Visibility was minimal. Jumping blindly into the surf only to be swept out into the current was a poor choice.

But his sinking boat, which ended up breaking in four, was still tied to dock poles. He assumed the boardwalk, now below water, was also still there. He could not tell in the driving rain.

The key fob to his truck was still in his pocket, and he had the wherewithal to use it. The headlights on the Dodge, parked 35 yards away in the marina lot, soon clicked on. Using the illumination from those headlights as a guide, he was able to see a couple of his boat

“I feel like this has helped put me in a better position spiritually. This is my second chance.”

lines among the debris in the raging water. When he says he then took a “leap of faith,” he means that literally. He had no idea if the boardwalk below the water line was still there. God was looking out for him when he realized he still had his truck key fob in his pocket, which enabled him to see his boat lines in the dark, and there really wasn’t another option anyway. He jumped into the turbulence and grabbed one of the lines, pulling himself towards the dock pole in hopes that there would be a boardwalk to stand on.

Although the water was up to his chest, his feet landed on the boardwalk when he got there, and at that point, it seemed relatively stable.

He was standing on a submerged boardwalk clinging to a pole with water up to his chest while riding out a category 2 hurricane and its 110 MPH winds. There was debris floating and flying all around him.

But he felt good. He could handle that.

The water continued to rise and soon it was over his head. He eventually climbed to the very top of the pole and continued to hang on as waves crashed over his head. The chaos he saw around him included watching his boat take its final plunge to the bottom of the Intra-coastal Waterway.

Williamson is not exactly sure how many hours he clung to the pole. But letting go was not an option.

“I am not in horrible shape. But I don’t go to the gym every day,” said the 6’2”, 190 lb. former high school

football player. “It did cross my mind that I should be in better shape. But it was too late to worry about that.

“I never thought I was not going to be able to hang on. That wasn’t even an option,” Williamson added. “I can’t really explain it. I knew that turning loose meant I was going to die. I was worried about getting hit in the head with a flying object. But not hanging on was just not an option.

“I have talked to a lot of people since then who said they would have given up,” he added. “But I never thought about that because I knew I had a purpose.”

During those harrowing hours, Williamson said he thought about his family, picturing their faces. He





thought about scriptures that referenced spiritual storms. He remembers wishing that his faith in God would have been even stronger.

With the sun about to rise, the tide and the surge shifted. The wind velocity lessened, and water began to flow out of the marina and into the Intracoastal Waterway.

He was able to lower himself from the pole and make his way to shore in front of the condos to the west of the marina.

He almost immediately encountered Debbie and Jerry LaCoste, who let him use their phone to call his wife, the boat's (Crazy Carey) namesake.

The LaCostes' phone had a Texas area code, but his wife knew for certain it was him calling to say he was OK when she answered the phone. "I called her at 6:03 a.m. She said when the phone rang, it never occurred to her it was anybody but me. She already knew in her mind that it was me calling to tell her I am fine."

Williamson wants it known that God was looking out for him, but he is the person who relied on inaccurate weather information and put himself in grave danger.

"It was nobody's fault but mine," he said. "Now I have to take something good out of this and hope that I can help somebody down the road."

Of course, he looks at life differently now. How could he not after surviving a direct hit from a category 2 hurricane while clinging to the top of a piling with projectiles flying and floating by him at incredible speeds. Any of those projectiles could have knocked him unconscious.

In the aftermath, he had trouble sleeping more than a couple hours at a time. It was almost too emotional to talk about the ordeal, even with family and close friends.

But as his body healed, it became clear that he could use his experience to speak to groups about nurturing their spirituality and relationship with God.

"I feel like this has helped put me in a better position spiritually. And this is my second chance. I am still here for a purpose and I don't want to miss that purpose," he said. "Maybe this experience will lead me in a direction where I can be of help to somebody dealing with a different type of storm."

"It's hard to get mad at anything anymore because I am blessed to be here," he added. "I don't care about losing the boat. That doesn't even come to mind. I can buy a new truck. That kind of stuff is just not very important."

But will he ever buy another boat?

"If I do it will be of the pontoon variety," he said. "If the boat doesn't have a trailer, I don't really want it."

Pictured: Tony Williamson stands by the pole that he clung to throughout Hurricane Sally; Williamson's totaled Dodge truck, which was parked about 35 yards from his boat.

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Lambert family lived on historic '53 T-boat for the past 15 years

Editor's Note: Any readers that have access to a means of pulling The Cumberland from the bottom of the Intracoastal, please contact the Mullet Wrapper (info at top of page).

By Fran Thompson

Up until Sept. 16, The Cumberland, a beautiful US Army T-Boat built by Higgins Marine in New Orleans for use in the Korean War, was the only home Les and Tammy Lambert's two teenage children (pictured below) have ever known.

For the past 15 years, the Lamberts have been from Brunswick to Miami and The Bahamas to Port Charlotte. But nowhere did they find a more beautiful setting or folks as nice and accommodating as Perdido Key Restaurant & Oyster Bar Marina owner Emile Petro and his staff.

The quality of life on Perdido Key was well worth Les Lambert's 90 minute drive to his job in West Mobile. And like everybody else in Perdido Key, he thought he was driving away from Hurricane Sally when he came home on Sept. 15.

"We were watching crazy Sally out there looking like it would come in west of Mobile. But Sally seemed to be a little intoxicated," Lambert said. "She was doing a little dance and we realized we were stuck between a rock and a hard place."

Lambert ran out a few more lines and put his main engine in reverse to hold The Cumberland in place when he realized the storm's eye would pass over Orange Beach. He said he would have powered out into the Intracoastal at that point, but he feared his 95 ton steel boat would ram into the huge power catamaran that had boxed his boat into its spot at the end of the marina dock.

Even battling winds he clocked at 116 MPH, Lambert kept his boat steady while other boats were piling up against the condos on the west side



of the marina and the first floor of the Oyster Bar Restaurant.

When the adjacent catamaran crashed against the SeaTow dock west of the marina, its emergency generator kicked in and the boat lit up like a cruise ship. After battling eight ft. swells for the next half hour, a wave broke over The Cumberland's stern and turned it sideways to the dock.

"The power catamaran took the dock out and we were an island onto ourself. I realized that if we didn't do something, we'd wind up piled up with all the other boats," Lambert said.

He motored the boat into the Intracoastal Waterway hoping to beach it at Banana Bay Resort and wait for daylight. But the storm was swinging the boat around and it was very dark on the Intracoastal.

The fender he planned to tie up to under Theo Baars Bridge was almost entirely under water. So, he put the boat in forward gear and headed west looking for a beach, with his son standing watch for debris and his wife and daughter tracking the storm below.

The Intracoastal was already full of docks, pil-

ings and other debris, some of which eventually fouled The Cumberland's prop.

Its flood lights were still working, but the boat was now at the mercy of the current and the wind. After barely missing another boat adrift in the Intracoastal, the Cumberland came to rest on rock jetties behind a home on Innerarity Point. The first thing the family saw on land was a pool belonging to homeowner George Scapin's neighbors in front of them.

The family was able to remove its most cherished belongings from the boat. But after the storm blew through, Lambert was denied access back to Perdido Key. So, he pulled a dinghy from The Cumberland and rowed back to the Oyster Bar to retrieve the family truck.

With Scapin and his retired Navy friends offering to help, Lambert did everything he could to try to dislodge his home from the jetties. But it was to no avail.

He sent his wife and children into Pensacola so they wouldn't have to see their home slowly sink as it continued to list throughout the day.

At around 4 a.m., The Cumberland sank to the



bottom of the Intracoastal, with only its roll chalk visible above the water. "The poor old girl didn't have any choice but to list over and sink right there," Lambert said.

In just 24 hours, life changed for the Lamberts. The Cumberland was more than a family home. It was an easily recognized conversation starter. It was a 67 year old part of American history.

A couple broken fingers and a few stitches were the total of Lambert's injuries, and the family was able to find accommodations closer to Les's job. But he will not let The Cumberland's odyssey end this way. As soon as he can find somebody with a crane barge to help him bring The Cumberland to the surface, the will take it to drydock and start restoring it again.

"We are trying to get her up, resurrect her and get her back in use. It is a piece of history. I do not want it to die because of crazy Sally," Lambert said.

Lambert said he is not even sure it will be his family that lives on The Cumberland. But somebody will keep it alive.

"She's not going to the scrap yard. We are going to bring her back. Boats such as this outlive several owners,"

he said. "It is a stewardship, not an ownership. You have to be cognoscent of what it needs and listen to what it tells you. They don't make things like this anymore. It's still alive at 67 and deserves to be kept alive."

At no time during the storm did Lambert think he or his family were in danger, even when they realized that Sally's feared northeast quadrant was coming straight at them.

"When we finally gathered around the dinner table, we made jokes and cut up about how there was no way Disney World could make a ride that was that awesome and intense at the same time," he said.

"I've been through a dozen hurricanes and storms. We have been through bad seas. We knew the boat was going to save us, just like we saved her from certain death," he added.

"We gave her love and she loved us back. She took care of us in all of our travels and she kept us safe. Even in her last effort, after she lost power, she put us onshore where we could step off with all the belongings that were important to us. She allowed us time to gather our things together before she succumbed to the effects of Hurricane Sally."



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SURVIVING SALLY AT PERDIDO KEY OYSTER BAR MARINA

Norman Sockwell survives falling in debris filled surge between two crashing yachts in hurricane eyewall

By Fran Thompson

Norman Sockwell was not even supposed to be alive to tell the love story that brought the women at his company, Sci-Fi Metropolis, to tears when he returned to his hometown office in Riverside (near Talladega) and shared his harrowing tale.

People who fall in raging water between two yachts crashing into each other among a cacophony of debris in the eye of a category 2 storm are simply

“The only thing I thought about was that I couldn’t die in the water because I promised my wife (Suzi) I would never leave her alone.”

not supposed to live to talk about it over coffee.

But that is exactly what happened to Sockwell in the deep dark of night when he decided to ride out Hurricane Sally on his boat at the Perdido Key Oyster Bar Marina.

The women were in tears because the love story had a happy ending. And it was about a man who refused to lose mainly because that would have meant leaving the woman he loved behind.

“I was amazed at how calm I stayed,” Sockwell said. “The only thing I thought about was that I couldn’t die in the water because I promised my wife (Suzi) I would never leave her alone. We have been together since 2011 and married since 2013. And I could not do that to her. It was a promise I was not willing to break.”

Like everybody else on Perdido Key, Sockwell was not expecting much more than high winds and an especially high tide when he decided to stay with his boat as Hurricane Sally spun its way towards the Mississippi Coast in the late afternoon on Sept. 15. He and Suzi had spent many long weekends on Pour Decisions, their 48 foot Sea Ray 480. He planned to secure the boat, get some sleep and join his wife back in Riverside on Wednesday.

Once at the marina, he did not care that some of the other boat owners laughed that it was overkill for him to use 11 lines to moor his boat to the dock. He had just recently secured his captain’s license and was showing his mettle. It looked like it was ensnared in a spider web, but he was confident the boat was going to stay nestled in its slip, just as it was supposed to.

By early evening, the Sockwells, who were face timing, knew the storm had veered east. Suzi was worried. She knew it was not safe. But her husband felt secure even as the winds increased steadily into the night.

When his wife face timed live coverage of the storm’s eye heading directly for Perdido Key, she was rightfully terrified. But Pour Decisions was a big boat. It was built to take a beating.

“At that point, I knew it was going to be a long night,” Sockwell said. “I grew up in Tampa and have been through storms with 80MPH winds. But this was already more than that. I was looking at the eye of a storm that was moving at only 2 MPH sitting on top of Perdido Key for three or four hours. This was not going to be good.”

He estimated that the winds had increased to 100 MPH by the time he got off the phone with Suzi at 3 a.m.

Then he heard a loud pop from the front starboard side. He thought a rope might have snapped or a cleat had slammed into his boat.

In the earthquake like aftermath, he went flying down the stairs into the stateroom, as bottles and plates flew out of cabinets around him. It was too rough to stand up. So he crawled back upstairs and made his way towards the cockpit.

He then saw his neighbor’s boat coming towards him. The collision sent Sockwell into the water between them. The wind was blowing at 120 MPH and probably gusting up to 134 MPH.

He tried to grab a pylon as both boats came at him and collided again. He dived underwater just as they banged together. When he came back up, the waves were so big that he could not reach up and grasp his boat’s swim platform. He made two valiant efforts to do so between dives under water to avoid the colliding boats.

The third time he came up for air he managed to grab onto a black rope in the dark. He still doesn’t know how he was able to find what turned out to be his lifeline. He said it was almost other-worldly that he didn’t even see

the rope until he touched it.

What happened next was even more extraordinary. The rope went taut and literally pulled him out of the water and onto the swim deck.

“It was miraculous that I was able to even find the rope. And then I felt like somebody helped me out of the water,” he said. “Like somebody behind me pushed me out of the water. It is the weirdest thing that has ever happened to me. I’m not sure what to attribute it to. But it could have been my dad. He had just died. I’m not one of those guys who would normally say that. But too many weird, freaky things were happening. If the timing would have been off on any of it, I would have drowned.”

Sockwell said another strange occurrence happened after he was able to get back up on the boat from the swim deck, no small feat itself, considering the environment he was in.

A voice in his head said, “Norman, you need to get off this boat now or you are not going to get off this boat.”

The boat was bouncing up and down and rocking so much that he could barely stay on his feet. He didn’t realize it at the time, but the loud cannon like sound he heard right after the cryptic warning was a pylon of a neighbor’s boat crashing through the hull on the portside of Pour Decisions. His boat was sinking.

It was too far to jump to the dock and

too dangerous to thrash his way to the seawall in front of the condos to his west.

He turned towards the poles supporting the narrow deck between the marina’s boat slips. There was just enough light coming from emergency lights on nearby boats to show that the boardwalk under water was still there, with two pylons attached to it.

The trick would be to time the jump correctly in coordination with the swaying boat. He made a successful leap and grabbed a pylon. He was still standing in a few feet of water. But the boardwalk wasn’t shaking underneath him. For the moment that was enough.

He took a deep breath. He could see very little other than a few emergency lights in boats that had yet to crash or sink and a few flashlights flickering in the condos.

Grabbing a rope, he started inching towards the shore around 30 yards away. He almost immediately stepped into a gap in the boardwalk and again fell into the water. He thinks that is when he severely bruised his heel. He pulled himself out and walked 10 more feet before the same thing happened, further hampering him getting to the marina’s gravel parking lot, where his Chevy Tahoe was parked.

He noticed some activity in the marina condos when he made it to shore. But he was in no way safe. There was



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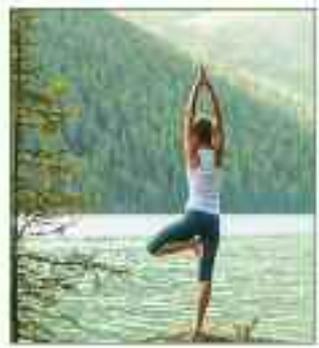
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SURVIVING SALLY AT PERDIDO KEY OYSTER BAR MARINA

a category 2 hurricane raging around him. The winds were strong enough to knock him down numerous times, as he made his way to the truck.

"It felt like I was getting shot at close range with paint balls," he said. "It left bruises. I don't even know how many times I got knocked down and had to get back up."

"It looked like little dirt devils spinning like crazy in front of me and behind me. It got pretty intense."

Sockwell prides himself on his balance. The 52 year old has a black belt in marshall arts and stays fit. But he gave up on trying to walk and dropped to his knees.

When he finally reached his destination, he crawled around the truck trying to get in. Eventually, he was able to pry open his truck's passenger door. He called his wife and told her he had made

it off the boat, soothed by the sound of her voice.

Sockwell said he doesn't know how long it was between the time he shot into the water and the time he climbed into his truck. It could have been as little as five minutes. Suzi thinks it was closer to 25 minutes.

"Everything goes into hyperdrive and the perception of time feels the same," he said.

Even inside a 5200 lb. truck, he was not safe. He was soaking wet. His heal was burning and he was close to dehydration, if not shock. The wind gusts were blowing hard enough to tip his truck 30 degrees. What he described as "mini-tornados" swirled all around him.

He moved his truck through the water to the northwest corner and parallel parked as close as he could to the restaurant. The wind was now pushing his truck sideways in the two feet of water that covered the lot. He moved the truck back and forth to stay ahead of that problem, as the cyclones continued to swirl around him.

"It looked like little dirt devils spinning like crazy in front of me and behind me. It got pretty intense," he said.

Once daylight came, Sockwell was able to get out of his truck and push his way through a thick jungle of debris to assess the damage to the marina and his boat.

"There were capsized boats everywhere. Some boats were partially sunk or on top of each other. Others were piled up in front of the restaurant. Boats were also piled in front of the condos. It was pretty intense."

He noticed a rescue helicopter flying overhead and EMT professionals on jet skis were patrolling nearby. All 30 boats in the marina were destroyed. But nobody died.

He said the Coast Guard called twice in response to the distress alarm on his boat.

"I joked with them that I was fine. I was just

a little shook up. I said my boat was in distress, and I have no idea where it is," he said.

Amazingly, Pour Decisions was still in its slip. It was leaning portside on the sea floor, but it was still upright. A power pole with breaker boxes still attached laid on top of it. Poles and 2 by 4's were jammed into most of its openings. But all eleven ropes were in place and all eight pylons held.

"I am the new guy in the marina and less experienced than anybody, but mine was the only boat that stayed tied and in the slip," he said.

Sockwell had to push a refrigerator aside just to get out of the marina parking lot. River Road was clogged in each direction. He went through the grass around a gate and into Lost Key Golf Course, where a resident told him about a service road that would get him back to Perdido Key Dr.

He was able to get into his wife's cousin's condo and wash up by draining the water heater. He melted ice for drinking water and ate a mini-key lime pie, the only food in the freezer. He then slept for about 12 hours.

"Once my brain got out of survival mode for a minute, I passed out. I woke up maybe one time and didn't wake up again until maybe 10 a.m. the next morning," he said. "I felt completely drained. I was completely out of it."

His brother-in-law showed up the next day with money and food and he took off for what turned out to be a seven hour trip home.

A couple weeks later, Sockwell returned to the marina to assess the damage with his insurance adjuster. His heal was still bruised and his biceps were still sore.

"He was no longer thinking poor boat. He was thinking poor Norman. He said the odds of surviving that are maybe five or 10 percent."

between the boats and the way they were bouncing off of each other."

Sockwell agreed.

He didn't tell the adjuster about the promise he made to his wife. He didn't have to.

"It certainly gives you a new respect for nature and the sheer amount of water and force that wind and water can put on you," he said. "Everything had to happen just in the right way or things would not have went down the way they did. If the timing was wrong with any of that, I wouldn't be here right now."

Pictured: (Page 16) Norman Sockwell & his wife Suzi on Pour Decisions.



Red Clay Strays, free food at Oct. 11 'Bama Oktoberfest

Family friendly event also includes costume, stein hoisting contests

The Flora-Bama Oktoberfest Customer Appreciation Celebration will be held on Sunday, Oct. 11 from 4 -6 p.m. Festivities include free food, one free drink card for those 21 and older and 25 percent off all items in the gift shop. Festive attire is encouraged, and an incredible band, The Red Clay Strays, will be playing. Children are welcome during this family friendly event and there is no cover charge.

Complimentary German food will be served from the buffet (while supplies last) beginning at 4 p.m. The menu includes beer brats, sauerkraut, and German potato salad.

The stein hoisting competition sponsored by Samuel Adams will begin at 5 p.m., with free steins for those who participate. Dress up in your favorite German attire, as \$50 gift certificates will be awarded for the best Lederhosen (men) and Dirndl (women) costumes.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

PIER & SHORE FISHING OUTLOOK

BY DAVID "THE PIERPOUNDER" THORNTON

Gulf State Park Pierspective

Well, fishing the second half of September sure turned into a train wreck thanks to the unwelcome visit of Hurricane Sally. Of course the beach front structures took the brunt of Sally's fury, and that was most evident when dawn on Wednesday September 26th revealed a 175 foot section of the Gulf State Park

Pier was missing. Ironically, that date was 16 years after Hurricane Ivan destroyed the original pier. It was also supposed to be the day of the long awaited reopening of the pier. The State Park had just regained possession of the pier from the contractor late Monday afternoon. Tuesday's gale force winds gave little opportunity to prep the pier for the storm, not that it would have made much difference. Consequently, disenfranchised anglers are hopeful what is left of the pier may



soon reopen after divers assess the damage to the pier and determine the structural integrity of the remaining pilings. "After that is finished, we will be able to make plans to get the pier reopened at least to the part where it broke off while we repair the entire structure back out to the octagon," said Chris Blankenship, Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

The floor panels performed as designed. Many were 'popped out' of place and swept away by Sally's overnight pounding from waves which likely exceeded 25 feet. Then the strong east to west littoral current generated by the +100 mile per hour winds of the northern eyewall carried some deck sections over 4 miles westward from the pier. But by the end of the week, State Park personnel scouring the beaches had recovered well over 200 of the displaced panels according to State Park Director Greg Lein. Each panel is marked with a number plate so it can be expeditiously returned to its original location. This should speed their replacement and decrease repair time (we hope). At least we may yet salvage some good fall fishing from the inshore section. The whiting bite can get good this time of year - LOL.

Perdido Pass

The back bays took a prolonged pounding as well from Sally, as evidenced by over 600 boats being displaced. Many were sunk or grounded. The number of piers and docks ruined are almost too numerous to count. And Alabama Point Park (under the west end of the Perdido Pass Bridge) was hard hit too. Much higher than average tides pushed large debris filled waves over the seawall for more than a day. This wrecked the northernmost end of metal guard rail, portions of the boardwalk, and eroded much of the landscaping near the bridge. Worse yet, erosion, buckling and undermining of the asphalt pavement may require some sections of the parking lot and boardwalk be cordoned off indefinitely according to Phillip

West, Coastal Resources Manager for the City of Orange Beach.

This necessary action (for the protection of anglers and sightseers) will be detrimental to fishing activity along the seawall for some time until repairs can be made. Of course all that surging water and wave action ruined the underground water and electrical lines. So now the lights do not work.

The lights helped draw and hold the baitfish which in turn attract predatory fish to the seawall. Still, there should be plenty of mangrove snapper and some redfish along the undamaged parts of the seawall and the west jetty.

These should be available for all anglers once access restrictions are lifted and public facilities reopen. But spanish mackerel and bluefish may be harder to come by, especially with cooler and dingier water. The entire area received 20 to 30 inches of rain. And all that freshwater runoff will take weeks to be absorbed into the Gulf. And it may be even longer before we see the salinity and clarity get back like it was prior to the storm.

Through much of this upcoming fortnight period, the tide will be outgoing for most of the daylight hours. However, any day with an incoming tide in the afternoon could bring clearer water and a better chance for anglers to land spanish mackerel from the seawall, or out on the jetties. It may well depend on how quickly the water gets 'salty' again, and how many baitfish return to the pass area.

Beaches

Of course the beach sandbars really took a lot of pounding during the days previous, and through the week or so following hurricane Sally. Storm surge and wave run-up pushed water at least 5 or 6 feet above normal sea level in many places in Gulf Shores and along the Fort Morgan Peninsula. It likely far exceeded that in the more eastern areas of Orange Beach and the length of Perdido Key. In fact the eastern end of the Key, near Pensacola Pass was breached in 3 places. These new cuts are testimony to the furious nature of the core of the storm as it grudgingly roared ashore through the night of September 15-16.

Since winds, waves and sealevel have returned to normal, it is now possible to observe new beach 'structures' to fish. Dunes were cut into or swept away along much of the area. And sand bars we had fished all summer long have been obliterated or swept away as well. Where did all that sand go?

It is highly advantageous for anglers to take some online time to review the aerial photos taken for NOAA just after the storm. Even more so, pictures of the beach on social media may reveal new beach sandbars and troughs that may hold fish like pompano, redfish and whiting. This could save you valuable fishing time to reconnoiter the beaches and provide a better idea of where to start fishing.

If for no other reason to be sure when the public access points are open. Social media websites and pages are great for this, and can save a lot of driving around and legwork on the sand. This is the time to look for new sandbars and fish them them before 'word spreads' and the crowds return.

Once the public access points have reopened, day trips to the point at Fort Morgan should produce increasing numbers of 'bull' redfish and black drum. The configuration of the sandbar at 'the point' was altered by Sally, but remains essentially similar. Early October is prime time for this location and the outgoing tides should bode well for the opportunity to tussle these large specimens.

Good luck!

THU, OCT 8

- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** schedule on pages 26-27; (includes Ole River Grill & Flora-Bama Yacht Club, Flora-Bama), Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Bingo:** 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- **Bama Beach Pickleball Club:** 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
- **Bar Trivia Night:** 6; Bar 45 Lounge at ONE CLUB, Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke:** 5; Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke:** 6; Tacky Jack's, Fort Morgan.
- **Ronnie Pressley:** 5; Lucy Buffett's LuLu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke w. Kelly:** 8; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Brent Burns:** 6; Marker 158 Dockside at The Wharf, Orange Beach.
- **HartStrings:** 6:30; The Point; Innerarity Point.
- **Tim Roberts:** 6; The Tin Top Restaurant, Bon Secour.
- **Rick Whaley & Tommy Mazzulo:** 6; Purple Parrot Tiki Bar; Perdido Key.
- **Danny Grady:** 2; Fraternal Order of Eagles; Foley.
- **Greg Lyon:** 6; Hub Stacey's; Innerarity Point.
- **The Favorites Band:** 7; AL. Gulf Coast Music Hall, Foley.
- **Karaoke:** 10; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Bingo:** 5; open to all; Amvets Post 2018; 13085 Wisconsin St.; Elberta.
- **Texas Hold 'em:** 7; The Office, Foley.

FRI, OCT 9

- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** schedule on pages 26-27; (includes Ole River Grill & Flora-Bama Yacht Club, Flora-Bama), Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Bingo:** 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- **Big Beach Brewing Company Anniversary Weekend:** 6; Boukou Groove; Gulf Shores.
- **The Redfield:** 5; Lucy Buffett's LuLu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Bama Beach Pickleball Club:** 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
- **Jenna McClelland Band:** 9; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Les Linton:** 7; Tacky Jack's, Fort Morgan.
- **Bo Grant:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.

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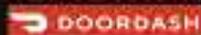
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WHAT'S HAPPENING

- **3 Bean Soup:** 5; Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.
- **Roger & Elaine:** 7; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- **T-Bird & The Fat Cats:** 7; Hub Stacey's; Innerarity Point.
- **Karaoke w. Kelly Ann:** 6; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- **Open Jam 7:** American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
- **Two Old Guys:** 5; Fraternal Order of Eagles; Foley.
- **The Favorites Band:** 7; AL Gulf Coast Music Hall, Foley.
- **Brandon Styles Magic Show:** 7; OWA; Foley.
- **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis:** 7:30 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center; corner of West 19th Ave. and West 2nd St.
- **Bingo:** 5:30; Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5659; Elberta.
- **Alcoholics Anonymous:** noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center; 13660 Innerarity Pt. Rd.; 850-492-3056 or 492-6362.

SAT, OCT 10

- **Free Milk Giveaway:** 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.; Foley United Methodist Church, 915 N Pine St.
- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** schedule on pages 26-27; (includes Ole River Grill & Flora-Bama Yacht Club, Flora-Bama), Perdido Key.
- **Big Beach Brewing Company Anniversary Weekend:** all day; Gulf Shores.
- **JER:** 5; Lucy Buffett's LuLu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Jim McAdams:** 3; Fraternal Order of Eagles; Foley.
- **Tailgate Toss:** 10 a.m.; The Wharf, Orange Beach.
- **Fat Lip:** 9; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Karaoke:** 7:30; Live Bait, Orange Beach.
- **Open Mic at The Sand Bar:** 1 p.m.; Pirates Cove; Josephine.
- **Bo Grant:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Gear Head Band:** 9; The Office, Foley.
- **Razor Hawk:** 7; Hub Stacey's; Innerarity Point.

- ity Point.
- **Tailgate Toss:** 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; Island Time Daiquiris, POUR Smart Bar + The Sandshaker, The Wharf, Orange Beach.
- **The Favorites Band:** 7; AL Gulf Coast Music Hall, Foley.
- **Free Veteran's Breakfast:** 9-10 a.m.; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.
- **Texas Hold 'em:** 7; The Office, Foley.
- **Brandon Styles Impressions, Comedy & Magic Show:** 7; OWA; Foley.
- **Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermen Market:** 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.; 20733 Milfin Rd. (County Rd. 20), Foley.
- **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. & 11 a.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Activities Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

SUN, OCT 11

- **The Church at the Flora-Bama:** 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.; Flora-Bama Tent Stage, Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** schedule on pages 26-27; (includes Ole River Grill & Flora-Bama Yacht Club, Flora-Bama), Perdido Key.
- **Big Beach Brewing Company Anniversary Weekend:** 6; Boukou Groove; Gulf Shores.
- **Light Travelers:** 5; Lucy Buffett's LuLu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Jonathan Puzan Duo:** 4 p.m.; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.
- **Open Mic at The Sand Bar:** 1 p.m.; Pirates Cove; Josephine.
- **Destiny Brown:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.

- **Danny Grady:** 2; Fraternal Order of Eagles; Foley.
- **Karaoke:** 7:30; Live Bait, Orange Beach.
- **Lisa Christian:** 3 p.m.; Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.
- **Roger & Elaine:** 5; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- **John Joiner & Friends:** 4; Hub Stacey's at the Point; Innerarity Point.
- **League Pool:** 7; The Office, Foley.
- **AA:** 5 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

MON, OCT 12

- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** schedule on pages 26-27; (includes Ole River Grill & Flora-Bama Yacht Club, Flora-Bama), Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Bingo:** 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- **Bama Beach Pickleball Club:** 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
- **Open Mic w/Hippy Jim Sloan:** 7; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 9; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Brent Burns:** 5; Lucy Buffett's LuLu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Sandy Roots Records Songwriters Night:** 6; Purple Parrot Tiki Bar; Perdido Key.
- **Big Beach Trivia:** 7; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.

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BY CAROLYN GODFREY

Greek Spinach Casserole

- 2/3 cup chopped onion
 - 1 Tbsp. butter or margarine
 - 2 (10-oz.) pkg. frozen chopped spinach, thawed and drained
 - 3 eggs
 - 1 (12-oz.) carton cream-style cottage cheese
 - 2/3 cup crumbled feta cheese
 - 1/2 tsp. salt
 - 1/2 tsp. pepper
- Saute onion in butter in a large skillet until tender. Add spinach, and cook 5 min., stirring frequently. Combine eggs and remaining ingredients; add to spinach mixture. Pour mixture into a greased 8-in. square baking pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 min. or until set. Yield; 6 servings. Enjoy!

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8 Main Room 2:00 Wes Loper 6:00 Mark Sherrill & Friends 10:0 Ricky Young Deck Stage 11:00 Josh Newcom 2:00 Brent Varner 6:00 Steve & Joe Piano Show 10:00 Mario Mena Tent Stage 1:00 Bingo Ole River Grill 5:00 Mason Henderson	9 Main Room 2:00 Lea Anne Creswell Duo 6:00 Wes Loper 10:00 Ryan Dyer Deck Stage 11:00 Casper McWade 2:00 J Hawkins Duo 6:00 Big Earl 10:00 Bruce Smelley Band Tent Stage 1:00 Bingo 6:00 Scott Koehn Project 10:00 Mario Mena Band Ole River Grill 7:00 David Chastang	10 Main Room 2:00 J Hawkins Duo 6:00 Casper McWade 10:00 Jesse Duncan Deck Stage 11:00 Alexa Burroughs 2:00 Josh Newcom 6:00 Al & Cathy 10:00 Mason Henderson Tent Stage 2:00 Zachary Diedrich 6:00 Justin Jeansonne 10:00 Bruce Smelley Band	11 Main Room 2:00 Perdido Brothers 6:00 Just A Little Rusty 10:00 Jesse Duncan Deck Stage 11:00 Bat 2:00 Red Clay Strays 6:00 Davis Nix Tent Stage 12:30 Mike Diamond 3:00 Knappy Ass Friends	12 Deck Stage 2:00 Petty & Pace 6:00 Tony Ray Thompson 10:00 David Dunavent Top Deck 9:00 Ricky Young Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo	13 Main Stage 2:00 T-Bone Montgomery 6:00 Perdido Brothers 10:00 Ryan Dyer Top Deck 9:00 Mason Henderson Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo	14 Deck Stage 2:00 Neil Dover 6:00 Rhonda Hart & Justin Fobes 10:00 Wes Loper Top Deck 9:00 Tim Roberts Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo
15 Main Room 2:00 Ryan Dyer 6:00 Mark Sherrill & Friends 10:00 Bruce Smelley Deck Stage 11:00 Jessie Wilson 2:00 Clay Barker 6:00 Steve & Joe Piano Show 10:00 Jesse Duncan Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo Ole River Grill 5:00 David Chastang	16 Main Room 2:00 Lea Anne Creswell Duo 6:00 Jessie Wilson 10:00 Wes Loper Deck Stage 11:00 J Hawkins Duo 2:00 Clay Barker 6:00 Big Earl Show 10:00 Ricky Young Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo 6:00 Scott Koehn Project 10:00 Yeah, Probably Ole River Grill 7:00 Mason Henderson	17 Main Room 11:00 J Hawkins Duo 2:00 Jessie Wilson 6:00 Clay Barker 10:00 Ricky Young Deck Stage 11:00 Josh Newcom 2:00 Patrick Cross 6:00 Big Earl Show 10:00 Jesse Duncan Trio Tent Stage 11:00 Bat 2:00 Tony Ray Thompson 6:00 Smokey Otis Trio 10:00 TBA	18 Main Room 2:00 Perdido Brothers 6:00 Just a Little Rusty 10:00 Patrick Cross Deck Stage 11:00 Clay Barker 2:00 Mike Diamond 6:00 Davis Nix & Jessie Wilson 10:00 Mario Mena Tent Stage 2:00 Al & Cathy 6:00 Wes Loper	19 Deck Stage 2:00 Petty & Pace 6:00 David Chastang 10:00 TBA Top Deck 9:00 Tim Roberts Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo	20 Deck Stage 2:00 T-Bone Montgomery 6:00 Perdido Brothers 10:00 Willie Traywick Deck Stage 5:00 Wes Loper Top Deck 9:00 Patrick Cross Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo	21 Deck Stage 2:00 Neil Dover 6:00 Rhonda Hart & Justin Fobes 10:00 Mike Diamond Top Deck 9:00 Ryan Dyer Tent Stage 1:00-4:00 Bingo

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Oct. 10-12 recreational red snapper season still on

Hurdles are finding friend with undamaged boat, debris in water

By David Rainer

Al. Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources

Despite the tumult caused by Hurricane Sally's direct hit, the October 10-12 red snapper season is still on for Alabama's private recreational anglers. The hurdle for many of those private recreational anglers is finding a friend with a boat undamaged by Sally's Category 2 winds and surge.

"Our intention is to keep the three-day season in October open," said Scott Bannon, Director of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Marine Resources Division (MRD). "If people have the opportunity to participate, they will. We'll get the numbers through Snapper Check and our surveys after that. Our promise is that we want to use all of the quota we have. If the weather is bad or participation is extremely low, we could look at additional days.



"The number of boats that are damaged is possibly in the thousands. That could have an impact on all fisheries. From a fish stock standpoint, we're going to see the pressure off for a few weeks and that can have some benefits. For the anglers, it's some lost opportunities."

For those boats that are seaworthy and return to Alabama's unparalleled artificial reef zones, there's no guarantee their favorite reefs will still be in the same location, according to Dr. Bob Shipp, professor emeritus at the University of South Alabama's Marine Sciences Department, who has witnessed the destruction of hurricanes Frederic, Ivan and Katrina as well as Sally during his tenure.

"The impact of a storm like this goes surprisingly deep," Shipp said. "Several studies have been done, and with a major hurricane like this, the impact is well over 100 feet deep. For fisheries, what we have is the ones really impacted are the reef species. We've been tagging red snapper and triggerfish for years. What we found is they stay put year after year. They don't leave the reef until there's a storm. Then they may show up 50 miles away to another reef. The (fish) movement is usually west to east, but I don't know if that is something we can count on."

Shipp said some of the reef structures in the 1,060-square-mile artificial reef zones were likely moved or covered with sand.

"The pyramids that David Walter (Reefmaker) puts down seem to be pretty stable, but the smaller reefs, like the chicken coops, get blown all over the place," he said. "It's going to be interesting when things settle down. There's going to be lots and lots of reefs in different locations and nobody will have the numbers. People are going to be out running over these reefs and building new sets of numbers."

Director Bannon agreed that reefs built of lighter material will likely be relocated.

"I saw some reports of wave heights of 30 feet," Bannon said. "That's a lot of energy dispersed in the nearshore zones. But the pyramids have proven to be pretty resilient. The shape helps keep them in place. If they have been there for any amount of time, they have subsided, or sunk into the bottom, and that helps keep them from rolling. We have seen them turn over before, but they stay in that area. They don't disappear."

Shipp wants boaters who venture out to be aware of potential hazards to navigation in displaced piers, pilings and other debris.

"There's going to be an awful lot of floating debris for a while," Shipp said. "It always concerns me that these boats with twins or triples (outboards) can go 50 knots. If you hit something going that fast, one can only guess the results. If you're going to be extra careful, this is the time to do it."

Bannon added, "Anytime we have a storm event or high-water event, all kinds of debris ends up in the water, and the rain dumped on the rest of the state will cause all sorts of material to come down the high rivers. Boaters definitely need to be aware of this. This is going to be an ongoing concern, potentially for the next couple of years."



Mariculture Center staff saves brood fish in storm

Scott Bannon, Director of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Marine Resources Division, said the MRD Gulf Shores facilities, which include the Claude Peteet Mariculture Center (pictured), suffered only minor damage occurred with the exception of the loss of four greenhouse-type structures used by MRD and Auburn University. He also commended the facility's staff for ensuring the many brood fish housed in the main facilities were protected.

"The facility is designed to take a certain amount of wind load," he said. "We have an emergency generator, and it stayed on the whole time. All of the fish in the facility are still intact. I'm very proud of our staff. They were able to go in to make sure the fish were fed, and all the systems were running even though they were without power in their homes and the roads were covered in downed trees and power lines."

One challenge for the Peteet facility is having access to water with proper salinity levels. Before the storm, a pipeline from the middle of Gulf State Park Pier fed saltwater to the spawning facility. With the tragic damage to the pier, Bannon said that pipeline intake will have to be inspected and repaired if damaged.

"We did store up some water prior to the storm," he said. "It's an invaluable asset to have that pipeline. It is extremely unfortunate that a section of the pier collapsed, which impacts so many anglers and tourists in addition to our pipeline."

- **Bingo:** 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
 - **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis:** 7:30 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center; corner of West 19th Ave. and West 2nd St.
 - **League Pool:** 7; The Office, Foley.
 - **Celebrate Recovery:** (Christ centered 12 step program); Monday evenings at 6 p.m.; Christian Life Church in Orange Beach; 251-967-4840.
 - **Overeaters Anonymous:** 6; Holy Spirit Episcopal Church; Gulf Shores, 616 Ft. Morgan Rd.; 251-709-5907.
 - **T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly):** weigh-in 5:30; meeting 6; First Presbyterian Church of Foley; (Berry & Highway 59).
 - **AA:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
 - **Ladies AA:** 10 a.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
- ### TUE, OCT 13
- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** schedule on pages 26-27; (includes Ole River Grill & Flora-Bama Yacht Club, Flora-Bama), Perdido Key.
 - **Flora-Bama Bingo:** 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
 - **Bama Beach Pickleball Club:** 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
 - **Chauncy Crandall:** 5; Lucy Buffett's LuLu's; Gulf Shores.
 - **Bingo:** 5; 45 Restaurant & Bar; One Club, Gulf Shores.
 - **Karaoke w. Kelly:** 7:30; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
 - **Line Dancing:** 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
 - **Texas Hold 'em:** 7; The Office, Foley.
 - **Brandon Styles Impressions, Comedy & Magic Show:** 7; OWA; Foley.
 - **Orange Beach Grief Support Group:** 10 a.m.; Orange Beach Senior Activity Center, 26251 Canal Rd.; 251-943-5015.
 - **Celebrate Recovery Meeting:** 6; includes free dinner; open to all; Orange

- Beach United Methodist Church; 251-981-6751 or 850-419-1141.
- **Orange Beach City Council Meeting:** 5 p.m.; City Hall; 980-INFO.
- **Overcomers Outreach:** 7 p.m.; First Baptist Church of Orange Beach; 980-1705.
- **Foley Kiwanis Club:** noon; Vallarta's, 1145 S. McKenzie St., Foley; 859-771-6091.
- **Foley Lions Club:** noon; Wolf Bay Lodge, Foley.
- **Gulf Shores Kiwanis Club:** Palmer Dining Room at Craft Farms; noon; new members and guests always welcome; 251-981-9999.
- **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, OCT 14

- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** schedule on pages 26-27; (includes Ole River Grill & Flora-Bama Yacht Club, Flora-Bama), Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Bingo:** 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- **Bama Beach Pickleball Club:** 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
- **Les Linton:** 7; Tacky Jack's, Fort Morgan.
- **Adam Holt:** 5; Lucy Buffett's LuLu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Open Mic Night:** 5; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke w. J.W. Baker:** 6; Purple Parrot Tiki Bar; Perdido Key.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 9; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Gary Story & Friends:** 7; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Artie Hopkins:** 5; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- **Karaoke:** 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- **John Joiner & Darrel Roberts:** 7; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING



Foley pairs with National Guard in wake of Hurricane

The City of Foley has faced many challenges in 2020. Hurricane Sally was one challenge that won't soon be forgotten by its residents. Luckily the City was able to pair with the C Company 1/173rd Infantry of the Army National Guard to assist numerous people without basic necessities.

Foley set up a Point of Distribution (POD) site in the days after the storm to distribute ready-to-eat meals, water, tarps, and ice free of charge. The items were supplied by the federal government. Sgt. Garey Buscaino said the Guard worked together with Foley's leadership to see if soldiers were needed and how many, as well as assisting in sharing information on what supplies would most benefit the community. Buscaino said usually the Guard asks for volunteers and doesn't activate a unit unless more help is required.

"Our members here in Foley volunteered for this mission, to help the community they serve in," Buscaino said. "It's what we signed up to do, whether it be for the nation, the state, the city or the community- we are here to serve."

And serve they did. The POD saw 6,380 cars come through with more than 17,000 items distributed. The Guard worked alongside City of Foley employees who greatly appreciated the help and the attitude the soldiers brought.

"It was difficult to see the way our community was suffering," said Foley POD Manager David Thompson. "The Guard not only brought us assistance in helping our residents but their upbeat attitude made our employees ready to attack the day. Their outlooks were infectious and their help was invaluable. We cannot thank the National Guard enough for the way they truly stepped up in Foley's time of need."

The C Company 1/173rd Infantry is now out of state for training as they prepare to deploy overseas. Anyone in Foley wishing to send them care packages or cards during their time away can do so by emailing the National Guard Family Readiness Group point person, Devin Holzer at devinhholzer@gmail.com.

Blue Girl's Tara Gifford embarks on her next great adventure

By Ellen Murphy

Blue Girl Beading Company owner Tara Gifford has enjoyed 18 years of offering Gulf Shore's greatest selection of beads, findings and unique treasures. A crafter's delight, this popular little shop will be closing its doors for the last time on October 30, 2020. To thank her loyal instructors and customers who have throughout the years shared so many fun days of stringing, metalwork, intricate stitching and most of all, friendship, Tara is bagging and offering her remaining inventory of beads and charms at give-away prices.

Don't miss out on this crafter's dream come true! Tara's shop is located at 2200 East 2nd Street Suite F, Gulf Shores, AL, just off of Hwy 59 in between the Catholic and Presbyterian churches. Store hours are M-F 10:00-5:00 and Saturday 10-12. Stop by for charm and bead bargains beyond belief and share a complimentary celebratory sip of Champagne as Tara embarks on her next great adventure.

Monthly skins game returns Nov. 7 to Orange Beach Golf Center

The Orange Beach Golf Center will host the first Skins Game of the 2020-21 fall/winter season on Sunday, Nov. 7, and then on the first Sunday of each month through March, with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. The public is welcome.

There are Skins on all 18 holes, a closest-to-the-pin contest, and \$250 for a hole-in-one on any of the 18 holes. Cost is \$5.50 for Golf Center members and \$22 for non-members. Registration starts at noon. Each player places \$5 to a pot for Skins and \$2 in a pot for closest-to-the-pin.

There are nine Orange Beach merchants sponsoring the hole-in-one prize. Free hot dogs, chips and drinks will be served prior to the tournament.

The Orange Beach Golf Center is located at 4700 Easy Street, off of Canal Road. The 9-Hole, Par-3 Course is open daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and the lighted Driving Range is open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.

For more information, call 251-981-GOLF (4653). The Orange Beach Golf Center hosts the Skins Game each year on the first Sunday of each month from October through March.

- **BBRC Running Club:** 5:30 p.m.; Big Beach Brewery in Gulf Shores; laffetw.com.
- **Karaoke & League Pool:** 7:30; The Office, Foley.
- **Bingo:** 10 a.m.; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis:** 7:30 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center; corner of West 19th Ave. and West 2nd St.
- **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.
- **Gulf Shores Lions Club:** noon; 2nd & 4th Wednesday; noon; G.S. Adult Activity Center; 251-968-2823.
- **AA:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

THU, OCT 15

- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** schedule on pages 26-27; (includes Ole River Grill & Flora-Bama Yacht Club, Flora-Bama), Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Bingo:** 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- **Bama Beach Pickleball Club:** 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
- **Bar Trivia Night:** 6; Bar 45 Lounge at ONE CLUB, Gulf Shores.
- **Lefty Collins:** 5; Lucy Buffett's LuLu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke:** 5; Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Fort Morgan.
- **Brent Burns:** 6; Marker 158 Dockside at The Wharf, Orange Beach.
- **JW Karaoke:** 6; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- **Karaoke w. Kelly:** 7:30; Sandshaker at The Wharf, Orange Beach.
- **Tim Roberts:** 6; The Tin Top Restaurant, Bon Secour.
- **Totally 80's Girl's Night Out:** 5 p.m.; The Wharf, Orange Beach.
- **Danny Grady:** 2; Fraternal Order of Eagles; Foley.
- **Skyline Kings:** 6; Hub Stacy's; Innerarity Point.

October is a busy time for the Fraternal Order of Eagles 4549

By TK Kipp

October is a busy time for the Fraternal Order of Eagles 4549. We start October off with our non-perishable food drive for our local food banks! Let's bust the boxes with so much food! They will be out all month.

Saturday October 10th, the Fraternal Order of Eagles will be holding it's first motorcycle show. Participants will include riders from American Legion Posts 99 and 44. Music will be on the venue starting at 10 AM with Two Old Guys and switch over to Jim McAdams at 3 PM. Bikes will be roaming in starting at 10:30. There is no entrance fee nor are we charging for you to check them out, but there will be cash prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd. And the Ladies Auxiliary is holding a shrimp gala feed later on starting at 2 PM for just \$10 a plate. Come have some fun, raising money for charity and good eating. More information call 251-971-4549.

October 23rd and 24th we are holding a bazaar (new, used, handmade items) and bake sale. Maid Rite sandwiches will be for sale with chips for \$5.00. Cost to be in the Bazaar is only \$10 for the 2 days to have a 10 x 10 foot space, indoors or out doors, and you need your own table(s). We will allow you set up a canopy to be used. You do not need to be a member to participate. Life South will be on premises Friday October 23rd, so stop by and leave a donation.

November has us in the planning stages for another shrimp boil, with proceeds going to Alzheimer's fund. More to come later. Our address is 8380 Highway 59 S. in Foley. For more info, call 251-971-4549.



ST. JOSEPH'S ALTER SOCIETY OFFICERS: After a longer than usual summer hiatus due to Covid-19, the St. Joseph Alter Society met recently to elect officers for the 2020-2021 year. Shedding their masks for a minute are from left, Treasurer Barbara Krouse, Vice President Hannah Gale, President Harriet Shields and Secretary Sally McKinney.

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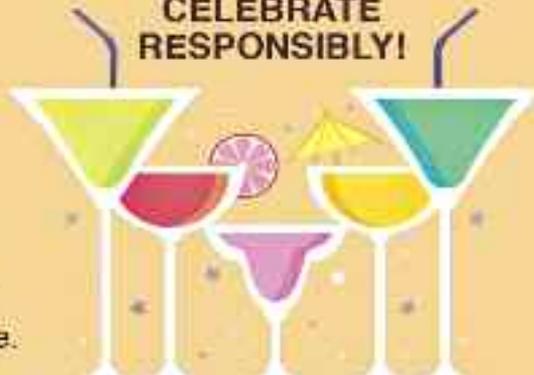
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WHAT'S HAPPENING

FBISF seeking community support to house songwriters during Nov. 11-15 fest

Some events cancelled, but more than 100 writers still expected for 36th annual gathering

By Fran Thompson

Although many of its signature events have been postponed until 2021, there will be a Frank Brown International Songwriters Festival next month, said event founder Joe Gilchrist.

"This is may be the first event in the whole area since the pandemic that has not been cancelled," Gilchrist said. "I would love to see the community get involved and use it as an opportunity to show that we are stepping forward. The community can help us make that point."

The fest, which normally runs for 10 days, will be held Nov. 11-15.

One show that has already been booked is Dean Dillon on Nov. 15 at the Flora-Bama. Another huge attraction, Billy Joe Shaver, has also committed to be part of this year's fest, as are Songwriter Hall of Famers Sonny Throckmorton and Bruce Channel.

"In some ways we are retreating back into the past in that it's smaller and has a shorter duration," Gilchrist said. "We will still have great players coming in - people who have written some really well known songs. But we want to make sure we showcase our local musicians as well."

This year's lineup is expected to include 35 local songwriters and 70 visiting writers. Instead of 32 venues hosting shows like in 2019, there will be less than 20 this year.

Gilchrist said Hurricane Sally has put a crimp on the number of complimentary room nights donated by local short term rental agencies and individuals with rental properties and vacation homes.

For instance, Perdido Beach Resort, a big supporter of the fest for more than 30 years, will be closed to overnight visitors until March while making Hurricane Sally related renovations. (The resort's two restaurants & lobby bar will open soon).

Gilchrist said he will reach out to local chambers of commerce to emphasize that supporting the fest brings in out-of-town music lovers and also has a domino effect on tourism.

"These writers will leave here and spread the word about our beautiful area all over the world," he said.

Last year's incredible lineup included the late Mac Davis and 2020 Grammy Award winner Tanya Tucker.

If the interest is there among local fans, up to five in-home concerts are also a possibility for this year's fest, according to Gilchrist. The concept has been gaining in popularity all over the country in the past 10 years. Anybody interested in hosting a concert can contact the fest through its website, frankbrownsongwriters.com.

"There certainly are more uncertainties this year. And right now housing looks like it may be a problem. But I hope we can just get the writers here and then figure it out," Gilchrist said. "Where it ends up, I am not sure. But we do have some wiggle room."

Most FBISF concerts include at least three songwriters trading songs and telling the stories behind their lyrics in an intimate setting.

The two fest seminars (with topics that range from writing to publishing to marketing songs), the Native American songwriters tribute, and, inexplicably since local songwriters Jimmy Louis and Larry T. Wilson both passed this year, the fest's annual memorial concert have all been cancelled.

The fest's youth Songwriters Showcase at LuLu's has also been cancelled. But its In-Schools Outreach program, which has been available to area schools, free of charge, for more than 14 years, has been ongoing via zoom under the direction of Karen E. Reynolds,

The popular Autism awareness concert and fundraiser at the Sunset Corkroom in Gulf Shores has also been cancelled. But Sunset owners Nina Martin and Connie Nickerson will conduct a silent auction in their wine tasting room throughout the fest.

"Obviously, there will be challenges. Health and safety of all will be a primary concern," said fest coordinator Andy Haynes. "I think we will all agree, we really want to have the festival. With everything else in the area pretty much canceled between now and the end of October, perhaps we can do something that will be good for the community and give people something to look forward to."



- **HartStrings:** 6:30; The Point; Innerarity Point.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 9; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Rick Whaley & Tommy Mazzulo:** 6; Purple Parrot Tiki Bar; Perdido Key.
- **The Favorites Band:** 7; AL. Gulf Coast Music Hall, Foley.
- **Texas Hold 'em:** 7; The Office, Foley.
- **Karaoke:** 10; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- **Gulf Shores United Methodist Church Bread Ministry:** 9-10; every Thursday; room 103 on the south campus, next to Crossroad; 251 968-2411.
- **AA:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

FRI, OCT 16

- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** schedule on pages 26-27; (includes Ole River Grill & Flora-Bama Yacht Club, Flora-Bama), Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Bingo:** 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- **Porch Ninjas:** 6; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.
- **The Redfield:** 5; Lucy Buffett's LuLu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Mark Ruthledge:** 7; Tacky Jack's, Fort Morgan.
- **Bama Beach Pickleball Club:** 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
- **Soul Food Junkies:** 5; Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.
- **Two Old Guys:** 5; Fraternal Order of Eagles; Foley.
- **Tyler Livingston & The Absolutes:** 9; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Smokey Otis Band:** 7; Hub Stacey's; Innerarity Point.
- **The Favorites Band:** 7; AL. Gulf Coast Music Hall, Foley.
- **Roger & Elaine:** 7.; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke w. Kelly Ann:** 6; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- **Open Jam:** 7; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.

- **Brandon Styles Magic Show:** 7; OWA; Foley.
- **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis:** 7:30 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center; corner of West 19th Ave. and West 2nd St.
- **Bingo:** 5:30; Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5659; Elberta.
- **Alcoholics Anonymous:** noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center; 13660 Innerarity Pt. Rd.; 850-492-3056 or 492-6362.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

- **Free Milk Giveaway:** 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.; Foley United Methodist Church, 915 N Pine St.
- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** schedule on pages 26-27; (includes Ole River Grill & Flora-Bama Yacht Club, Flora-Bama), Perdido Key.
- **Jason Abel Band:** 9; The Office, Foley.
- **Brandon White:** 5; Lucy Buffett's LuLu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Fort Morgan.
- **Bruti:** 6:30; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- **Jim McAdams:** 3; Fraternal Order of Eagles; Foley.
- **6-Piece Suits:** 7; Hub Stacey's; Innerarity Point.
- **Open Mic at The Sand Bar:** 1 p.m.; Pirates Cove; Josephine.
- **Jenna McClelland Band:** 9; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Open Jam:** 8; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
- **The Favorites Band:** 7; AL. Gulf Coast Music Hall, Foley.
- **Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermans Market:** 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.; 20733 Mifflin Rd. (County Rd. 20), Foley.
- **Texas Hold 'em:** 7; The Office, Foley.
- **Brandon Styles Impressions, Comedy & Magic Show:** 7; OWA; Foley.
- **Baldwin County Republican Executive Committee:** 10 a.m.; Robertsdale City Hall Building; 251-379-0748 or don@mcgriffaw.com
- **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.
- **Ladies AA:** 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

SUN, OCT 18

- **The Church at the Flora-Bama:** 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.; Flora-Bama Tent Stage, Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:**

- schedule on pages 26-27; (includes Ole River Grill & Flora-Bama Yacht Club, Flora-Bama), Perdido Key.
- **Jenna McClelland Duo:** 6; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.
- **Rock Bottom:** 5; Lucy Buffett's LuLu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Danny Grady:** 2; Fraternal Order of Eagles; Foley.
- **Open Mic at The Sand Bar:** 1 p.m.; Pirates Cove; Josephine.
- **Karaoke:** 7:30; Live Bait, Orange Beach.
- **Lisa Christian:** 3 p.m.; Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.
- **Roger & Elaine:** 5; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- **John Joiner & Friends:** 4; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- **League Pool:** 7; The Office, Foley.
- **AA:** 5 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

MON, OCT 19

- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** schedule on pages 26-27; (includes Ole River Grill & Flora-Bama Yacht Club, Flora-Bama), Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Bingo:** 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- **Bama Beach Pickleball Club:** 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
- **Open Mic w/Hippy Jim Sloan:** 7; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 9; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Brent Burns:** 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Big Beach Trivia:** 7; Big Beach Brewing Company; Gulf Shores.
- **Sandy Roots Songwriters Night:** 6; Purple Parrot Tiki Bar; Perdido Key.
- **Bingo:** 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- **League Pool:** 7; The Office, Foley.
- **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis:** 7:30 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center; corner of West 19th Ave. and West 2nd St.

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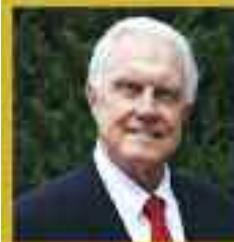
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WHAT'S HAPPENING

- **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.
- **Bingo: 6;** American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- **Take Off Pounds Sensibly: 5-7 p.m.;** Foley Presbyterian Church; 965-2737. songwriters all original open mic from 9:00-12:00 pm.
- **AA: Noon;** Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

TUE, OCT 20

- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** schedule on pages 26-27; (includes Ole River Grill & Flora-Bama Yacht Club, Flora-Bama), Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Bingo: 1-4 p.m.;** free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- **Bama Beach Pickleball Club: 9-noon;** Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
- **JW Karaoke: 6;** Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- **Gypsy Pearl: 5;** Lucy Buffett's LuLu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Tiki Trivia: 7;** Purple Parrot Tiki Bar; Perdido Key.
- **Bingo: 5;** 45 Restaurant & Bar; One Club, Gulf Shores.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde: 9;** Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke w. Kelly: 7:30;** Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Sandy Roots Songwriters Series: 6:30 p.m.;** The Point, Innerarity Point.

- **Pool Tourney: 7;** Snapper's; Orange Beach.
- **Texas Hold 'em: 7;** The Office, Foley.
- **Brandon Styles Impressions, Comedy & Magic Show: 7;** OWA; Foley.
- **Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermen Market: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.;** 20733 Mi-flin Rd. (County Rd. 20), Foley.
- **Foley Kiwanis Club: noon;** Vallarta's, 1145 S. McKenzie St., Foley; 859-771-6091.

WED, OCT 21

- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** schedule on pages 26-27; (includes Ole River Grill & Flora-Bama Yacht Club, Flora-Bama), Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Bingo: 1-4 p.m.;** free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- **Bama Beach Pickleball Club: 9-noon;** Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
- **Delta Donnie: 7;** Tacky Jack's, Fort Morgan.
- **Adam Holt: 5;** Lucy Buffett's LuLu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Gary Story & Friends: 7;** Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Open Mic: 5;** Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.
- **John Joiner & Darrel Roberts: 6;** Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- **Don Stafford's All-Time Country Hits Show: 7;** AL, Gulf Coast Music Hall, Foley.
- **Karaoke w. J.W. Baker: 6;** Purple Parrot Tiki Bar; Perdido Key.
- **Karaoke & League Pool: 7:30;** The Office, Foley.
- **Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermen Market: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.;** 20733 Mi-flin Rd. (County Rd. 20), Foley.

- **Karaoke: 6;** American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde: 9;** Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Artie Hopkins: 5;** American Legion Post

- 99; Foley.
- **Bingo: 10 a.m.;** American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- **Karaoke: 10;** The Undertow; Orange Beach.

- **BBRC Running Club: 5:30 p.m.;** Big Beach Brewery in Gulf Shores; laffet-foot.com.
- **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis: 7:30 a.m.;** all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis



The following was released by the Alabama Crimson Tide Foundation

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WHEN YOU THINK BACK ON YOUR TIME AT ALABAMA, WHAT COMES TO MIND?

As a player under Coach Bryant, I knew that my teammates and I were part of something special. However, as an 18-22 year-old, I'm not sure that I fully appreciated then how special it was to be part of a championship program and to win a coveted national championship ring. A half a century later I still wear that ring. In my mind, it represents a focused mission, dogged determination, extraordinary effort, and unselfish teamwork. Sometimes it takes looking back to realize everything that was required to be a consistent winner - in the game of life, as well as in sports.

WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT HOW YOUR TIME AT ALABAMA STAYS WITH YOU LONG AFTER YOU'VE LEFT CAMPUS, WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IS THE MOST "ALABAMA IN ME" THING YOU CARRY WITH YOU TODAY?

The "Alabama in me" today is to demonstrate class and dignity in everything that I do, exhibit pride in the legacy of champions that I inherited, and do my best to propagate that legacy every day that I am able - to never do anything that would embarrass my alma mater, my family, my mentors or my staff; And to only bring honor to every endeavor in which I am affiliated.

HOW DID YOUR STUDENT-ATHLETE EXPERIENCE AT ALABAMA PREPARE YOU FOR YOUR ROLE IN THE MEDICAL PROFESSION?

Coach Bryant was a stickler for attention-to-detail and for the avoidance of making careless mistakes - to strive to improve, even a little bit, every day, in every way. It is the same mentality that I learned on my way to becoming a medical student, physician and facial plastic surgeon. Because my teammates and I devoted an average of six hours per day towards football workouts, practices, meetings, and reviewing films of our opponents, we had to budget time for our studies when other students were engaged in social activities. Learning about time management as a student-athlete became valuable when I entered medical school, during the clinical years of my training, and in my practice.

WHAT IS YOUR ROLE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19?

In my practice, we are exercising the "abundance of caution" advice that has been recommended by health officials. We are testing every patient who is scheduled for a surgical procedure to make sure that we do not increase exposure to other patients and staff... or put them at additional risk. I have also shared - through mass emailing - pertinent information and advice with my patients and clients. I've tried to use whatever influence I have to stress vigilance but to avoid panic or fool-hearted behavior.

WHAT ARE YOU MOST LOOKING FORWARD TO WHEN THE PANDEMIC SUBSIDES?

Being able to demonstrate true friendship and gratitude by handshakes and appropriate hugs are at - or near - the top of my list. I also am looking forward to the return of larger gatherings of friends for events and celebrations and sporting events.

THE INTERNATIONAL PUBLICATION COSMETIC SURGERY TIMES LABELED YOU A "RENAISSANCE MAN" FOR SEVERAL DIFFERENT ACCOLADES INCLUDING BEING THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN BOARD OF FACIAL PLASTIC SURGERY & RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE ACADEMY AND FOUNDATION THAT REPRESENTS THE SPECIALTY OF FACIAL PLASTIC SURGERY. TO NAME A FEW, HOW DID YOUR TIME PLAYING FOOTBALL AT ALABAMA INSPIRE YOU TO BECOME AN INDUSTRY LEADER?

When an internationally-recognized medical publication used the term in an article about my career I was honored beyond description. It only came in second to the day (in 2017) I stood at midfield in Bryant-Denny Stadium and received the University of Alabama National Alumni Association's Paul W. Bryant Alumni-Athlete Award.

Coach Bryant often talked about leadership and service. He challenged us, his players, to become leaders on the practice field and during games by our actions. We were taught not to be satisfied with an "ordinary" performance and to encourage our fellow teammates to put forth extraordinary effort in everything we attempted. When elected to positions of leadership, I used the skills I had observed in my coaches and medical mentors to serve - to put the organization's interests ahead of myself. I used the same principles I learned as a student-athlete, that resulted in championship performances, to steer organizations through difficulties and trying times.

WHAT LIFE LESSONS DID YOU LEARN UNDER LEGENDARY COACH PAUL "BEAR" BRYANT?

The takeaway message from Coach Bryant's mentorship is best summarized in a statement most often identified with him: "If you believe in yourself and have dedication and pride and never quit, you'll be a winner. The price of victory is high, but so are the rewards."

Another statement that he often made to us prior to a game is this: "Today, in front of your parents, your classmates, and fans, we will show our class. We will win the game with pride and dignity; but should we lose, we will exhibit this place with pride and dignity. As long as we did the very best we could do, individually and collectively, we will hold our heads high and begin to concentrate on how we will overcome this defeat the next time we take the field." I apply those lessons every day - not only in my surgical practice - but in my life.

*Interviews were conducted in May 2020 and have been edited lightly for clarity and length.



Youth-Reach Gulf Coast offers help rebuilding community

Youth-Reach Gulf Coast, located in Summerdale, is partnering with White Dove Ministries, Freedom Church, Frontline Ministries, and Operation Lost Sheep to help rebuild the South Baldwin community. Its Hurricane Sally disaster relief team is helping with the following in addition to other immediate community needs: Flood-Damaged Home Demos; Tree and Debris Removal; Installing Tarps on Damaged Roofs.

"We are working to reach those who need help as quickly as possible," said YRGC Chief Financial Officer, Caleb Davis. "We're continuing to stand with our community and cover our friends across the Gulf Coast in prayer! Disaster relief support will be available as long as there is a need."

"For those who can, please prayerfully consider supporting this relief mission. Your generosity will help provide us with fuel for vehicles and chainsaws, food for our team, and additional items needed to serve those impacted by Hurricane Sally.

For more info, email caleb@youth-reach.org or visit youth-reach.org.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING



Perdido Beach Resort temporarily halts operations due to Hurricane Voyagers & Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge to open soon, resort in March

Perdido Beach Resort, the Alabama Gulf Coast's premier luxury beach front resort, suffered a significant impact due to Hurricane Sally. Damages to the roof, ballroom, meeting rooms and guest rooms from wind and water have created a necessity to cease operations for an indefinite period until repairs and renovations can be made throughout the facility. This work is already ongoing, however, it is anticipated that reopening will not occur until March of 2021.

When the resort does reopen, all guest rooms will have been renovated, a brand new ballroom will be unveiled and all the meeting rooms will also be updated. The hotel plans to host a grand re-opening celebration to share these changes and improvements with the community and will announce the date as soon as it is confirmed.

Voyagers and Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge are scheduled to reopen once it is considered safe to allow guests back into the resort. Although a specific date is yet to be established, the hope is that this will occur before the end of October. Further information regarding these two outlets will be communicated as soon as it is available.

About the Perdido Beach Resort Hotel

Nestled on the beautiful Alabama Gulf Coast, Perdido Beach Resort is located directly on the sugar-white beaches and emerald waters of the Gulf of Mexico. The hotel features 344 luxury guestrooms with private balconies, 45,000 square feet of indoor/outdoor meeting space, multiple restaurants that include the award winning Voyagers Restaurant, indoor/outdoor pool, fitness center, chartered sailing, parasailing and much more. Perdido Beach Resort is within walking distance of shopping, dining and entertainment. We are located just two miles west of the Florida state line, about 45 minutes from Pensacola International Airport, or within a days drive from anywhere in the southeast. For more information, call 800.634.8001 or visit perdidobeachresort.com.

Apply for CSC's Children's Christmas Cheer program beginning Oct. 20

By Mary Ann Bousquet

Jesus always cared so deeply for our little ones, so it's only natural that the Christian Service Center has been sponsoring the Children's Christmas Cheer program for over 20 years. It is a program for local families that will need help providing a Christmas for their children. This program is sponsored by our area churches, clubs, businesses, and of course, our generous community members.

The Center provides Christmas gifts from birth through high school. Our service area includes Orange Beach, Gulf Shores and Fort Morgan, with proof of residency required through a current bill or lease agreement.

Because of the Corona Virus, we will only take telephone requests from people who are in our parking lot. It is necessary to be there when we do intake because there are papers you will need to take with you to present when picking up the Christmas food box, which is also being offered, or when picking up the Christmas gifts.

Our intake hours are from 12:30 through 2:30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting on October 20. There will be no intake during the week of Thanksgiving, and intake will end on December 15. If someone you know plans on coming to the Center and needs an interpreter, please accompany them to make the process go a little smoother.

South Bald. Chamber Job Fair Oct. 14 at Foley Civic Center

The South Baldwin Chamber of Commerce (SBCC) is hosting a Job Fair on Wednesday, Oct. 14 for local businesses needing part-time and full-time employees. Hours are 9 a.m. - noon and 1-3 p.m. at the Foley Civic Center. For more info, call 251-943-3291.

The SBCC has partnered with Southwest Alabama Workforce Development Council (SAWDC) and the Foley Career Center to expand the promotion of this event to reach as many potential employees as possible.

At one location, in one day, a job seeker can potentially meet their new employer and be hired on the spot. A few businesses that will be participating include American Thrift Stores, Long's Human Resource Services, OWA, Craft Farms Golf Resort, Homecare Companions, Waffle House, Meyer Vacation Rentals and more. Job seekers are encouraged to arrive anytime with resumes in hand and ready to walk away with a new job.

Center; corner of West 19th Ave. and West 2nd St.

- **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.
- **Food Bank:** 9 - 11 a.m. every Wednesday, Perdido Bay Baptist Church, 12600 Sorrento Rd. Pensacola; call for eligibility requirements at (850) 492-2604.
- **Bread Ministry:** 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Orange Beach United Methodist Church Brook's Center.
- **AA:** Noon; United Methodist Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

THU, OCT 22

- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** schedule on pages 26-27; (includes Ole River Grill & Flora-Bama Yacht Club, Flora-Bama) Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Bingo:** 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- **Bama Beach Pickleball Club:** 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
- **Bar Trivia Night:** 6; Bar 45 Lounge at ONE CLUB, Gulf Shores.
- **Ronnie Pressley:** 5; Lucy Buffett's LuLu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke w. Kelly:** 7:30; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Tim Roberts:** 6; The Tin Top Restaurant, Bon Secour.
- **Danny Grady:** 2; Fraternal Order of Eagles; Foley.
- **Razor Hawk:** 6; Hub Stacey's; Innerarity Point.
- **Karaoke:** 5; Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.

- **Karaoke:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.
- **Brent Burns:** 6; Marker 158 Dockside at The Wharf, Orange Beach.
- **Rick Whaley & Tommy Mazzulo:** 6; Purple Parrot Tiki Bar; Perdido Key.
- **HartStrings:** 6:30; The Point; Innerarity Point.
- **Karaoke:** 10; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 9; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **The Favorites Band:** 7; AL. Gulf Coast Music Hall, Foley.
- **Bingo:** 5; open to all; Amvets Post 2018; 13085 Wisconsin St.; Elberta.
- **Texas Hold'em:** 7; The Office, Foley.
- **Marine Corps League of South Baldwin County:** 6 p.m. on 4th Thursday; The Gulf Bowl, 2881 S. Jupiter St., Foley; current and former Marine and Corpsman welcome.
- **Rotary Club of Gulf Shores/Orange Beach:** noon; Gulf Shores Golf Club; visiting Rotarians and guests invited.
- **Gulf Shores United Methodist Church Bread Ministry:** 9-10; every Thursday; room 103 on the south campus, next to Crossroad; 251 968-2411.
- **AA:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

FRI, OCT 23

- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** schedule on pages 26-27; (includes Ole River Grill & Flora-Bama Yacht Club, Flora-Bama) Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Bingo:** 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- **Bama Beach Pickleball Club:** 9-noon;

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WHAT'S HAPPENING



Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).

- **Bo Grant:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Barstool Revival:** 5; Lucy Buffett's LuLu's; Gulf Shores.
- **The Defrosters:** 7; Tacky Jack's, Fort Morgan.
- **Rhonda Ray:** 5; Tacky Jack's, Gulf Shores.
- **Full Circle:** 9; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Two Old Guys:** 5; Fraternal Order of Eagles; Foley.
- **Augie Nation:** 7; Hub Stacey's; Innerarity Point.
- **Roger & Elaine:** 7.; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke w. Kelly Ann:** 6; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- **Karaoke:** 8; Snapper's; Orange Beach.
- **Karaoke:** 10; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- **The Favorites Band:** 7; AL. Gulf Coast Music Hall, Foley.
- **Open Jam:** 8; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
- **Brandon Styles Magic Show:** 7; OWA; Foley.
- **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis:** 7:30 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center; corner of West 19th Ave. and West 2nd St.
- **Bingo:** 5:30; Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5659; Elberta.
- **Alcoholics Anonymous:** noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center; Pensacola.

Orange Beach will host SEC Women's Soccer Championship

All 14 teams will compete in Nov. 13-22 tourney at O.B. Sportsplex

The 2020 SEC women's soccer season will consist of an eight-match, Conference-only regular season over eight weeks of competition beginning September 18, followed by the SEC Championship November 13-22 in Orange Beach. All 14 schools will compete in the SEC Championship with each team guaranteed at least two matches. The recently established new start dates and formats for fall sports seasons, as it continues to monitor developments related to COVID-19.

SEC soccer and volleyball teams will participate in spring competition as well, with details of formats contingent on final decisions by the NCAA to conduct spring championships in those sports. Student-athletes in all sports who elect to not participate in intercollegiate athletics during the fall 2020 academic semester because of health and/or safety concerns related to COVID-19 will continue to have their scholarships honored by their university and will remain in good standing with their team.

"Here we go. Sept. 18th start. Eight single game weekends. Orange Beach 14-team SEC Tournament. Been working hard but now it's time to prepare," said Darren Ambrose, Vanderbilt Women's head soccer coach. "Thank you to our administrators and medical staff who have crafted protocols and health and safety processes to give us the best and safest environment in which to compete this fall."

The SEC features NCAA Division I women's soccer only, with the following programs in the East Division: Vanderbilt, South Carolina, Tennessee, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky and Missouri. The SEC's West Division includes: Arkansas, Texas A&M, Alabama, Ole Miss, Auburn, Mississippi State and LSU.

The championship tourney has been held at the OB Sportsplex since 2005. South Carolina is the defending tourney champion.

All tourney matches will be covered live coverage on the SEC Network, which will also air a studio show live from the Orange Beach Sportsplex before and after each match.

Pictured: Both Alabama and Auburn will be competing in the SEC Women's Soccer Championship in Orange Beach this November.

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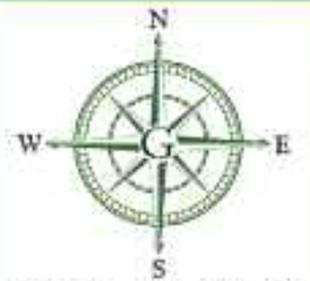
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Deadline to enter 2021 Alabama Photo Contest is Oct. 31

The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is accepting entries for its 2021 photo contest through Oct. 31.

This year's contest will focus on traditional photography techniques and the use of hand-held cameras.

No cellphone, smartphone, game camera, or drone photography will be chosen as winning photos for nine of the 10 categories.

Smartphone and tablet photos will be accepted in the Young Photographers category.

A total of eight photos per person may be entered, and participants may enter all 8 in one category or among several categories.

Categories

- **Alabama State Parks:** Scenics or people taking part in recreational activities at any of Alabama's 22 State Parks. A list of eligible parks is available at the Alabama State Parks website, alapark.com. When entering this category, the name of the State Park must be included in the description.
- **Birds:** Native or migratory songbirds, hummingbirds, game birds, and raptors.
- **Bugs and Butterflies:** Bugs, insects and arthropods. Examples include bees, butterflies, centipedes, dragonflies and spiders.

- **Cold-blooded Critters:** Turtles, frogs, snakes, lizards, salamanders, crayfish, and fish.

- **Nature-Based Recreation:** Photos of people enjoying outdoor recreation. Examples include hunting, fishing, shooting sports, boating, paddling, hiking, camping, mountain biking, rock climbing, and surfing. Hunting and fishing photos are highly encouraged.

- **Scenic:** Waterfalls, mountain and canyon vistas, beach and coastal scenery, landscapes, swamps and bayous, wetlands, sunrises and sunsets, and nighttime photos such as astrophotography are included in this category.

- **Shoots and Roots:** Wildflowers, foliage, fungi, fruiting bodies, and other parts of plants or trees can be entered in this category. Native flora and fungi are highly encouraged.

- **Sweet Home Alabama:** Photos in which natural or man-made landmarks or other inanimate objects are prominent. Photos of regional festivals throughout the state may also be entered in this category. Examples include Birmingham's Vulcan statue, Alabama's Natural Bridge, city skylines, the U.S. Space and Rocket Center's Saturn V, and the National Peanut Festival.

- **Wildlife:** Mammals such as deer, squirrels, black bear, bats,

otters, foxes and almost anything else with fur.

- **Young Photographers:** This category is reserved for photographers ages 17 and younger. The subject matter can be any of the categories above. Cell-phone photos will be accepted in this category only. Ages 18 and up must enter any of the other categories.

The contest is open to any amateur photographer not employed by ADCNR. An amateur is defined as someone who does not earn the majority of his or her living from photography.

Judges will make selections based on quality, composition, content, originality, uniqueness, creativity and general appeal with a focus on traditional photography techniques and the use of hand-held cameras.

First, second, third, and honorable mention winners will be selected in all categories. The winning photos will also be included in a traveling exhibit. Winners will be notified by email no later than February 2021.

For more info, Email: billy.pope@dcnr.alabama.gov or call 800-242-3151.

Pictured: (Below) Sam Sumlin took third in the Nature-Based Activities category of the 2020 contest. The surfer is Grant Hesse of Orange Beach; (right) other 2020 contest winners.



REOPENING SOON!

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LOCALLY OWNED



Dinner Seafood Specialties

Stuffed Shrimp

Bacon wrapped, baked with crabmeat dressing & monterey jack cheese. \$17.99

Shrimp Scampi

Sauteed shrimp in garlic & butter, served with Fettuccine Alfredo. Choose one side dish. \$17.99

Blackened Catfish

Two delicate fillets, sprinkled with cajun seasonings and lightly seared. \$17.99

Coconut Shrimp

Dipped in beer batter, sprinkled with coconut and fried. \$17.99

Shrimp Creole

Spicy tomato and vegetable sauce over yellow rice. Served with one side dish. \$17.99

Crawfish Etoufee

Crawfish tails, onions, sweet peppers, and yellow celery simmered in a cajun roux over yellow rice. Served with one side dish. \$17.99

Crab Cakes

3 Cakes served in a Remoulade Sauce. \$17.99

People's Choice Award

Best Lunch
14 YEARS IN A ROW
Best Dinner
14 YEARS IN A ROW
Best Seafood
14 YEARS IN A ROW

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Open 7 Days 11am-9pm

Home Style Lunch

Choices-Includes Tea & Bread

Served with your choice of two sides	
Fried Shrimp - tail less	\$8.75
Blackened Catfish - dusted w/Creole spices & lightly seared	\$8.75
Fried Catfish - corn meal buttered	\$8.75
Broiled Flounder - broiled in lemon butter & topped with roasted almonds	\$8.75
Fried Flounder - lightly battered and fried golden brown	\$8.75
Grilled Chicken - with a light touch of lemon-herb olive oil	\$8.75
Chicken Creole - smothered in a spicy tomato & vegetable sauce. Served on yellow rice	\$8.75
Fried Chicken Tenders - batter-dipped tenders, deep-fried & served w/honey mustard	\$8.75
Country Fried Steak - served w/cream gravy	\$8.75
Hamburger Steak - (6 oz) char-grilled & served w/brown gravy	\$8.75
Pork Chops - two tender chops grilled or fried	\$8.75
Country Ham - char-grilled	\$8.75
Vegetable Plate - your choice of four (4) side dishes	\$8.75

Senior Menu

SERVED DAILY 3:00PM - 5:30PM

Served with your choice of two side dishes

Includes Iced Tea

Coconut Shrimp with spicy orange marmalade	\$12.99
Stuffed Shrimp bacon wrapped with crabmeat dressing & monterey jack cheese	\$12.99
Grilled Shrimp over yellow rice	\$11.99
Fried Shrimp	\$9.99
Fried Oysters with cocktail sauce	\$14.99
Fried Seafood Platter flounder, shrimp, crab claws & oysters	\$15.99
Broiled Seafood Platter shrimp, scallops & flounder	\$14.99
Fried Chicken Tenders with honey mustard	\$8.99
Grilled Chicken Breast w/ a light touch of lemon herb oil	\$8.99
Yellow-Fin Tuna grilled or blackened	\$11.99
Mahi-Mahi grilled, blackened, broiled	\$11.99
Flounder fried or broiled	\$9.99
Grouper grilled, blackened, broiled or fried	\$12.99
Side Dishes	
Sweet Potato Casserole • Cole Slaw • Baked Potato	
Steamed Vegetables • French Fries • Yellow Rice	
Substitute House or Caesar Salad for a side dish	Add \$1.99

Lunch Specials \$8.25

Served 11-3

(Served with two sides, bread & tea)

Monday – Fried Chicken

Tuesday – Bar-B-Q Meat Loaf

Wednesday – Chicken-N-Dumplings

Thursday – Beef Tips over Rice

Friday – Chef's Choice Entree Served with bread & tea

Email your shots to mulletwrapper@gulftel.com

PICTURES OF THE WEEK



From Tina Brock-Phillips.



A blue heron ready for cruising submitted from Len Knitter.



Blue Herons from Immi Shea.



"No bigger than my index finger nail," writes Courtney Gibb.



Alabama Dept. of Natural Resources & Conversation 2020 photo contest winners (more pics and story on page 40).



Picture taken on West Beach in Gulf Shores at sunrise by Phillip Thomas.



Geni McLeod, a visitor from Texas, said she enjoyed this beautiful Pleasure Island sunset while here.

ADVERTISE WHERE IT COUNTS
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GET READY to RUN



Conquer the **2020-2021 Run the Beach Half Marathon Series** by completing the Vacasa Coastal Half Marathon, the Big Beach Marathon or Half Marathon, and the Sea Turtle Half Marathon. Upon completion of all three races, finishers receive a medal depicting the three Gulf Coast races and other awesome swag. Love a bargain? **Early online registration saves you \$30!**



11-28-20



1-31-21



2-20-21

For more information, visit GSOB.co/RunTheBeach



Funny Bones

By George Ridder



- You're getting old when you're sitting in a rocker and you can't get it started and you wake up with that morning-after feeling, and you didn't do anything the night before.
- You know you're getting old when you stop buying green ba-

nanas and you ask yourself if there is anything else you need to do while you are down there when you lean over to pick something up off the floor.

•••••
"To do is to be..." -- Descartes.
"To be is to do..." -- Sartre.
"Do be do be do..." -- Sinatra!
•••••

A priest and pastor stood by the side of the road holding up a sign that said, "The end is near! Turn yourself around now before it's too late!"

"Leave us alone, will you!" yelled the first driver as he sped by.

From around the curve they heard a big splash.

"Maybe we should just put up a sign that says 'bridge out' instead," said the priest.

•••••
The judge warned the witness, "Do you understand that you have sworn to tell the truth?"

"I do."
"Do you understand what will happen if you are not truthful?"

"Sure. "My side will win."
•••••

An old guy spotted an attractive young lady at the gym and asked a nearby trainer, "What machine should I use to impress that lady over there?"

"I would try the ATM in the lobby," the trainer said.

•••••
A bass guitar player that was getting a divorce from his wife. The court ordered that his wife was guaranteed to half of what he owned.

So she got his E string and his D string.

•••••
A lawyer is working late one night when his door opens and in walks Satan himself.

"I have an offer," says Satan. "If you give me your soul and the soul of everyone in your family, I'll make you a full partner in your firm."

The lawyer stares icily at the devil for a full minute before demanding, "So what's the catch?"

•••••
So grateful somebody invented window blinds, or it would be curtains for all of us!

•••••
What do you call the boss at Old McDonald's Farm?
The CIEIO!

•••••
After a man had his annual physical, the doctor came out and said, "You had a great checkup. Is there anything that you'd like to talk about or ask me?"

"Well," he said, "I was thinking about getting a vasectomy."

"That's a pretty big decision. Have you talked it over with your family?"

"Yeah, and they're in favor 12 to 1."

•••••
If Lawyers are disbarred and clergymen defrocked, doesn't it then follow that electricians can be delighted, musicians denoted, cowboys deranged, models deposed, tree surgeons debarked, and dry cleaners depressed?
•••••

An older man at the evening function bowed his head and wept quietly but copiously while a young woman rendered the plaintive ballad, "My Old Kentucky Home."

The hostess tiptoed up to him and inquired tenderly, "Pardon me, are you a Kentuckian?"

"No, madam," the tearful one replied, "I'm a musician."

•••••
I can't take my dog to the park because the ducks keep trying to bite him. I guess that's what I get for buying a pure bread dog.

•••••
A pilot wanted to sound cool on the aviation frequencies.

This was his first time approaching a field during the nighttime.

Instead of making any official requests to the tower he said, "Guess who?"

The controller switched the field lights off and replied, "Guess where?"

•••••
I just saw some idiot at the gym put a water bottle in the prong holder on the treadmill.

•••••
An atheist was spending a sudden day when his boat was attacked by the Loch Ness monster. In one easy flip, the beast tossed him and his boat high into the air, then opened its mouth to swallow both.

As the man sailed head over heels, he cried out, "Oh, my God! Help me!"

At once, the ferocious attack scene froze in place. As the atheist hung in mid-air, a booming voice came down from the clouds, "I thought you didn't believe in Me!"

"Come on God, give me a break!!!" the man pleaded. "Two minutes ago I didn't believe in the Loch Ness monster either!"



LEAVE ONLY FOOTPRINTS

We know you love our beach!

Gulf Shores and Orange Beach strive to provide a safe, clean, family-friendly environment. You can help protect the coast by observing beach rules and regulations. Enjoy the beach responsibly and safely.



Prohibited items include glass containers, fires, pets & loud music.



PLEASE REMOVE ALL PERSONAL ITEMS DAILY



Any personal property left on the beach one hour after sunset will be removed and disposed of overnight.

For more information, check www.cleanisland.org

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THE GROVE

The Grove is Foley's Premier 55+ Community for Active Lifestyles. New 3Bd/2Ba Manufactured Homes with prices starting in the \$100's or custom build your retirement dream in this beautiful gated community. Enjoy the Clubhouse, Pool, Jacuzzi, Activities. Minutes from b/aches. www.thefoleygrove.com or 251-971-1033.

LOTS NORTH OF G.S.

Just North of Gulf Shores; Building lots available from \$19,900 for your new home. Financing available. Text Alla if you are interested. 251-923-6475; Ryals Realty.

JOSEPHINE AREA

Josephine area; Estate lot. All utilities are at the street. Nearly 1 acre. Beautiful. Restricted to new construction only. \$49,900. Owner financing available with \$1,000 down, 8% interest. Text 251-269-2156; Ryals Realty.

1 ACRE HOMESITE

One Acre Homesite; Between Gulf Shores and Foley. Ok for Tiny Home / RV / Mobile Home. Owner financing available. 251-747-0097; Ryals Realty.

NORTH OF GULF SHORES

North of Gulf Shores; nice land; Owner Financing. Very large lot suitable for mobile home, new home, or RV. OK for 2 homes! \$69,900. Seller will finance with \$1000 down, 8% interest. No credit check. Ryals Realty; Text 251-422-8718.

17 ACRE GETAWAY

17 acre getaway; In the woods just north of I-10. Super fine land. Ideal hunting getaway. \$99,900 and easy financing with \$2500 down. Text 251-269-2156 Ryals Realty.

FOR RENT

COTTAGE IN GS

Seniors; 1 BR for lease in Gulf Shores; Roomy Island Style Cottage apt in downtown Gulf Shores, ON the Intercoastal Waterway! Near park, restaurants, and churches. Just a few blocks from Acme Oyster House. No dogs, no smoking. All utilities included. 55+ older only. Only \$790/mo. Text 251-752-0381.

GULF SHORES 2BR

Gulf Shores 2BR: Roomy 2br townhome next to Acme Oyster House and Tacky Jacks! Includes all utilities except electric. \$1100. No dogs, no smoking. Stable income required. Text 251-923-6475 if you think you qualify.

COMING SOON

Seniors; Brand new apartments in Gulf Shores; Text Marbella Luxury Apartments to get on the list: 251-923-6475.

RV LOTS-SENIORS

Attn. Seniors: RV Site in Retirement Park; Located in Country Crossroads Retirement Community! This is a 55+ only park. All utilities are included. Clubhouse, catfish pond, concrete roads, street lamps, nice neighbors. Bring your RV here. \$395 per month. Call 251-422-8718 and leave a message.

RV LOT!

RV lot located in Foley and Gulf Shores; Lot Only. All utilities are included. \$375 per month. Text 251-747-1688.

RV LOT-LONG TERM

RV lot for lease long term; Located in Summerdale. \$325 per month with utilities. Call asap 251-269-2156

GS OFFICE SPACE

Office, cafe shop for lease; Downtown Gulf Shores in Uptown Plaza on East 20th Ave. in Gulf Shores; 1400SF. Nice space, and very nice property for; Office, Retail, or

your business. Available now. Text 251-923-6475; Ryals Realty.

HIGHWAY 59 LOT

Highway 59 Frontage lot; North Side of Foley. 220' frontage. Approx 2 acres. \$1000 per month. No improvements; lot only. 251-269-2156; Hosteeva Realty.

WAREHOUSE

16,750 SF Warehouse for lease; South side of Foley. One mile from Owa and Walmart. 1.5 Acres included. All paved. 300' OFF OF 59. Buy or Lease for \$4,500 per month. Easy owner financing. 251-747-0097; Ryals Realty.

MISCELLANEOUS

LARGE GAS DRYER & TABLE

Large gas dryer; excellent condition; 7.3 ft. capacity; glass top table with brass looking stand - \$75; 251-272-0400.

HELP WANTED

PAWS IN THE SAND

Paws in the Sand located I Gulf Shores AL. Is looking for a grooming apprentice or a groomer with previous experience in a grooming salon to join our team. Pay is at an hourly rate depending on experience, ability and productivity. Email resume to info@pawsinthesand.com Or contact Diane at 251-948-7487.

EXPERIENCED BARBACK

Weds, Thurs, Fri, Sat nights from 8p til 2am, hourly pay plus tipout; Apply in person anyday before 7pm; The Office Lounge, 122 County Road 20 West, Foley (behind Moyer Ford); Experience required.

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Part time bartender needed. Must apply in person at 2621 S. Juniper St. after 2 pm.

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ART LESSONS

Art Galleries w Talis @ Artworks Studio and gallery @ Villagio on Perdido Key; tues & Thursdays 10:30-12:30 am; Paint & Wine Class Wed 5-7 (or by special request); Call for more information or reservations; Talis 850-261-9617; 13700 Perdido Key Dr.

GUITAR LESSONS

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

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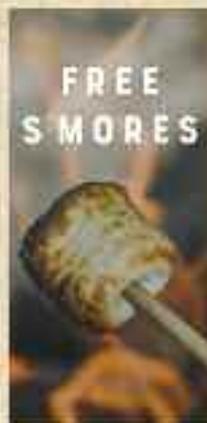
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