

# MULLET WRAPPER

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## Local playwright Laura Pfizenmayer's autobiographical cancer survivor dramedy opens April 30 at SBCT

Local playwright Laura Pfizenmayer (front) and the cast from the South Baldwin Community Theater production of "Cancer Can Kiss My A\$\$" run a rehearsal for the play world premier at SBCT on April 30 at 7:30 p.m. . The dramedy chronicles the journey of Jean's battle and triumph over anal cancer and is based on Laura's own story. Its six runs also include 7:30 shows on May 1, 7 & 8 and 2:30 p.m. matinees on May 2 and 9. For tickets and more info, visit sbct.biz for tickets and more information. "During lockdown I wrote a dramedy recounting my own cancer journey and now South Baldwin is giving it a world premiere," Laura said. "The theatre is thrilled to be welcoming back our patrons while still observing all COVID guidelines." Directed by **Jan Hinnen**, the cast includes Ann Gaynor, Mel Middlebrooks, Barbara Campbell, Steve Henry, Rio Cordy and Robert Gardner. (Photo by Dan Mennuto)

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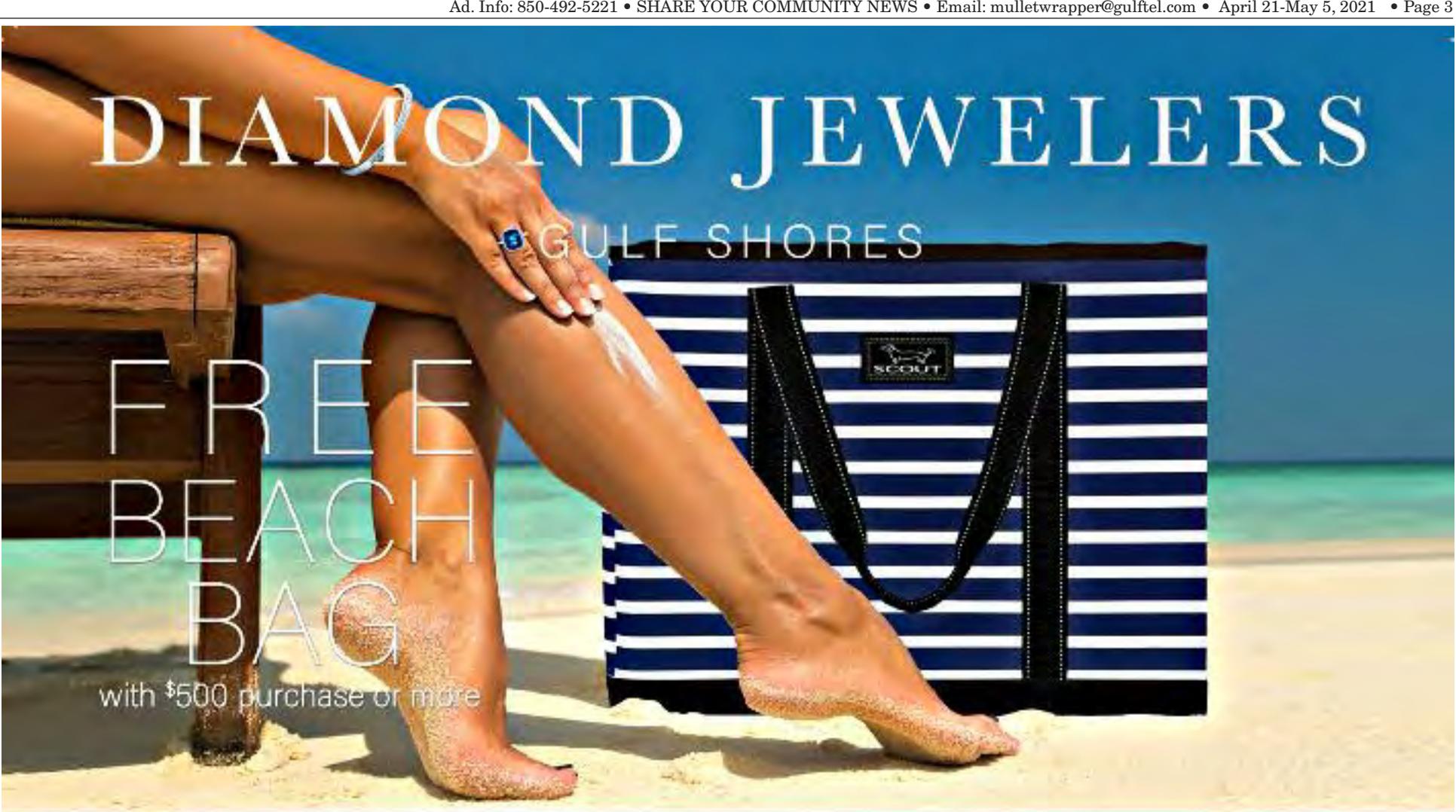
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## NCAA BEACH VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS MAY 7-9 AT GULF PLACE

### Gulf Coast Region National Qualifier could draw 475 teams

By Fran Thompson

Even if the NCAA decides to limit access into next month's NCAA Beach Volleyball National Championship to families of players, Gulf Shores Public Beach will still be Volleyball USA for the weekend, as around 470 teams and some of the best U-18 and U-16 players in the country will be playing matches on 48 courts just a few hundred yards to the west of the college matches.

Now in its 9th year, the USAV Gulf Coast Region Beach National Qualifier - Beach Bash '21 - will be held in conjunction with the May 7-9 national championship, and it has grown exponentially along with the sport itself.

"Right now it is the largest national qualifier in the nation for beach volleyball," said Beach Region Director Shawn Weaver.

Also, the founder of Pleasure Island Volleyball, Weaver said 440 teams had already signed up when the Covid pandemic shutdown the 2020 tourney.

He said trying to find participating families parking during both morning and afternoon sessions is just one

of the logistical challenges, but the Gulf Coast Region's staff of 20 people supplemented by 20 officials have experience with such obstacles.

There is already a waiting list to get in the tourney, and Weaver is still holding spots for other Baldwin County, Pensacola and Mobile players to finish their indoor seasons. "I think 475 is our magic number with logistics and staffing," he said.

Louisiana is turning into a hotbed for the sport, but teams will come from as far as California, Colorado, New York, Arizona, South Florida and Washington to play this tourney. Three Canadian teams are entered.

Within three weeks of opening registration for this year's tourney, 400 teams had already registered. And this is from a tourney that drew a total of 15 or 20 teams the first year the USAV Gulf Coast Region hosted it in 2012.

"The next year it was 150 and then 250 and then 350. Nine years later we are way over 400 teams," Weaver said.

Weaver said up to half of the players competing in the U-18 division have already committed to play the sport in college, and around 20 players in the U-16 division have already committed to college programs.

Even not being able to receive their usual free tickets for the NCAA Championships up the beach has not even deterred teams from coming.

Weaver said the tourney's popularity is a tribute to the Gulf Shores Sports Tourism, the City of Gulf Shores and Gulf Coast Volleyball and their ability to work together.

"People tell us all the time how well this tourney is run. The same with the National Championship," Weaver said.

Many participating teams bypass qualifying tourneys closer to home because they love this area, its beautiful beaches and white sand, the accommodations and the amenities tourney sponsors provide.

So, even without the option of watching the national championship, the sport's fans will be exposed to national caliber beach volleyball played in Gulf Shores May 7-9.



### NCAA Beach Volleyball Championship returns to Gulf Shores Public Beach May 7-9 FSU & LSU are south's best hopes to wrestle title from California powers UCLA & USC

By Fran Thompson

Although the eight teams participating in the NCAA Beach Volleyball National Championship scheduled May 7-9 in Gulf Shores will not be presented until May 2 and ticket info had not been released as of April 20, ticket options are expected to be extremely limited due to Covid pandemic restrictions. The 2020 championship was cancelled.

Even with the event being outdoors on a huge beach, admission will probably be limited to player families when the NCAA officially announces its ticketing policy.

Among the eight teams competing for the 2021 title, three will be selected from the west and three from the east, with two at-large teams rounding out the bracket.

The three teams representing the East region are set, with familiar foes Florida State, LSU and Texas Christian all entrenched in the top 10 of the AVCA poll.

It is certain the top two seeds will be UCLA and USC. The California schools each won two of the first four championships contested in Gulf Shores, and UCLA is the defending champ.

No. 5 Loyola Marymount has the upper hand for the third automatic west seed, with Cal Poly, Stanford, Grand Canyon, Arizona and Pepperdine vying for the two at large slots.

**NCAA Beach Volleyball Notes:** In December 2017, ESPN signed a multiyear agreement to broadcast the NCAA Women's Beach Volleyball Championship through 2022 ... The championship will also be held in Gulf Shores in 2022 and 2023 before

moving to Huntington Beach in California for two years. Gulf Shores will surely put in a bid to host future tourneys ... Time-outs have been shortened from 90 to 60 seconds this season, and uniform numbers can now be between 1 and 99 ... California recently made girls' beach volleyball a sanctioned high school sport. Arizona was the first state to do so ... A separate pairs tourney to provide competition for teams with more than 10 players was added to last weekend's AVCA Small College Beach Championships at Florida's (Tavares) Hickory Point Beach ... Seven conferences sponsor beach volleyball: Atlantic Sun (7 members), Big West (12 members), Coastal Collegiate Sports Assn. (12 members), Ohio Valley (6 members), Pac-12 (9 members), Southland (9 members), and West Coast (7 members). The minimum number of participating teams for a conference to qualify for an automatic bid to other NCAA championship tournaments is six, and it is expected that beach volleyball will eventually include automatic championship tourney bids to conference champions ... Florida State was the runner-up in two of the four NCAA sanctioned championships, all contested in Gulf Shores ... Other southern colleges in the AVCA Coaches Top 25 are Florida Atlantic, Florida International, South Carolina, Stetson, Georgia State, Florida Gulf Coast, Tulane, Coastal Carolina, North Florida and Tampa.

**Pictured:** Jaden Whitmarsh of defending champ UCLA lays out for a diving save during the Bruins' win over Florida State.



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## AROUND TOWN

### Gulf Shores town hall meeting April 29 at Erie Meyer

The City of Gulf Shores the first in a series of resident town hall meetings on Thursday, April 29 at 6 p.m. at the Erie H. Meyer Civic Center.

The meeting will begin with Mayor Robert Craft giving a brief introduction presentation about major city projects.

After the presentation, the meeting will transition to an interactive, open house format where residents can learn more about current and proposed projects by visiting displays around the room and talking with city department heads. These displays will provide detailed information about the projects and allow residents to provide direct input.

"We want to hear from our residents and make sure the efforts we are making to improve our community and our quality of life align with their wants and needs," said Mayor Craft. "The only way we can do this is through creating a direct dialogue and increasing resident engagement. We hope that these meetings will play a pivotal role in achieving this."

Topics covered in this meeting will include transportation projects, proposed improvements to police and fire rescue facilities, parks and recreation facilities, environmental efforts and an update on Gulf Shores City Schools.

Dates for future Resident Town Hall meetings will be announced soon and will focus on specific topics rather than an overview of all projects. Public input will be requested at all meetings.

Due to the interactive nature of the meeting, this will be an in-person event. After the meeting concludes, displays and information provided by department heads will be available at [gulfshoresal.gov](http://gulfshoresal.gov) with the ability for residents to provide input online.

### Brett/Robinson Charity Rummage Sale May 8 in O.B.

The Brett/Robinson Annual Charity Rummage Sale will be held on Saturday, May 8 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the company's laundry facility at 25050 Canal Road in Orange Beach.

The sale includes items donated by employees, condo owners, friends and people in the Pleasure Island community, including furniture, household goods, home accessories, clothing and toys. Anyone interested in donating, or would like to schedule a time for pick-up of items, please contact Angela Hendricks at 251-228-0928.

The charity fundraiser also includes a Split the Pot 50/50 raffle. The most recent raffle winner received approximately \$2,000.

### Food Pantry scheduled May 22 at O.B.'s Island Church

The Island Church in Orange Beach will host it's next Island Mobile Food Pantry on Saturday, May 22. Baldwin County families that would like to receive a 50 pound box of food are asked to call Lisa in the office at 251.967.4840 to receive more details. The food will be distributed at 8:30 a.m. with a drive thru. Space is limited to the first 200 families that register through the office. The church is located at 25550 Canal Rd. in Orange Beach.



## EXIT STAGE LEFT

### May 1 gala at Magnolia Hotel supports ESL Theatre

Exit Stage Left, a non-profit for the arts in Lower Alabama, is holding a fund-raising gala on Friday, May 1, starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Hotel Magnolia in Foley.

The All That Jazz theme will feature heavy hors d'oeuvres, signature drinks from the 20's and wine along with a silent auction and musical performances from Chase Morrisette, Savannah Litton, Lacy McFadden, Kaelee McCoy and a skit by Jennifer McBrayer. Tickets can be purchased at [exitstageleft.org](http://exitstageleft.org).

ESL's mission is to expand theatre opportunities for people residing in Baldwin County, including year-round productions of both musicals and three-act plays as well as summer camp for students. More information about the organization, its planned productions and the summer camp are available on its website.

ESL was founded by a group of friends who share a passion for performance and a desire to educate. Board members include Chase S. Morrisette, director, artistic vision; DeAnn Milly, director, special events; Lacy Ignacio McFadden, director, operations; Rena McCoy, CFO; and Jude McCoy, CEO.

ESL has already scheduled the Madagascar Jr. Summer Camp July 19-23rd at Graham Creek Nature Preserve (The play will be presented on July 23). The group will also present The Rocky Horror Show Oct. 28-30 at the Foley Civic Center. Future productions also include Sealed For Freshness and A Night Of Laughs.

### May 14 The Island Church Golf Tourney supports pantry

The Island Church is hosting its annual golf tournament to benefit the Island Mobile Food Pantry on Friday, May 14 at Glen-Lakes Golf Club. The fundraising event supports the Island Mobile Food Pantries offered to Baldwin

County residents.

Teams of four golfers will tee off at 8 a.m. for a chance to win great prizes.



Breakfast and a sack lunch will be provided as part of the \$85 registration fee per player. Many sponsorship options are also available.

The Island Church is dedicated to fighting hunger and food poverty for all of Baldwin County. For more details or to register for the golf tournament, call Lisa at 251.967.4840.

### Bond issue, corporate funding to raise \$94 million for state parks

Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey joined the Alabama State Parks Foundation (ASPF) representatives to promote fundraising for state parks.

Ivey supports an \$80 million bond issue for State Park improvements that she hopes state legislators will put on the ballot in the 2022 November election.

The non-profit ASPF launched a \$14 million corporate giving campaign for park improvements. Buffalo Rock Company has already pledged \$250,000 Alabama Power Foundation contributed \$100,000. Funds raised will help expand campgrounds, add cabins and improve internet connectivity at state parks.

Up to 90 percent of state park funds are generated through user fees for rental, lodging, golf and other amenities. The system's finances can also be impacted unexpectedly, such as Hurricane Sally damaging Gulf State Park in Gulf Shores last fall, and another tornado wreaking havoc on the campground and day-use areas at Joe Wheeler and Oak Mountain State Parks.

The 21 Alabama State Parks attracted a record 6.27 million visitors in fiscal year 2020, and enhancing

"We plan to be good stewards of the taxpayers' money, as well as funds so generously donated by the corporate community," said Chis Blankenship Commissioner of the Dept. of Conservation. More info: [alapark.com](http://alapark.com).

### Tickets still available for April 25 NEEDTOBREATHE concert in O.B.

A limited number of socially distanced tickets for NEEDTOBREATHE at The Wharf Amphitheater on Sunday, April 25 were still available as of April 20. Andrew Ripp will open and the tickets will be sold in pods through Ticketmaster.com or at The Wharf Box Office in Orange Beach. Entire pods must be purchased together and the capacity for the show is set at 20 percent (around 1900). Tickets are priced from \$27.50 to \$120 on ticketmaster. Patrons will be required to wear a mask upon entry and when moving around the venue.

Other concerts booked at the Wharf this season include Muscadine Bloodline on May 27 at the Port, and Riley Green on May 28, Luke Bryan on June 4, Jon PARDI on June 18 & 19, Brantley Gilbert on July 17, Thomas Rhett on Aug. 13 & 14, and Chris Stapleton on Sept. 18.



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## AROUND TOWN



### Stray Love Rescue Estate Sale April 23-24 in Magnolia Springs

The Stray Love Foundation's Estate Sale Fundraiser is on for April 23-24 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Magnolia Springs Community Hall (across from Jesse's Restaurant), at 12201 Magnolia Springs Hwy. in Magnolia Springs.

"We will have donated Antiques, Furniture, Rugs, Jewelry, Home Decor, Tools, Books, Art, Toys, Holiday & Household Items, Collectibles and much, much, more. We always have so many items to sell, we have to wait for space to open up on our display tables to put out new, so people should come both days," said Gayle Guthrie, SLF Founder/Director.

One of the event's supporters, ChemDry by the Shore, will be treating the entire hall and outside areas with MicroPro Shield, which is approved by the EPA for use against the spread of COVID-19. Masks and gloves and social distancing will be encouraged. Email [info@straylovefoundation.org](mailto:info@straylovefoundation.org) to donate items. Or visit [straylovefoundation.org](http://straylovefoundation.org).

"We are taking these steps so that everyone can feel safe attending this event," Guthrie said. "This is normally our biggest fundraiser of the year and with almost no fundraisers last year, this will be a very important event. Everyone should attend. There will be many special treasures you don't want to miss. This is always one of the best sales in Baldwin County and it's all for the fur-babies."

**Pictured:** Foley High School's National Honor Society volunteering to set up for the April 23-24 estate sale fundraiser.

## Another public input workshop for Johnson Beach intersection April 29

**By Fran Thompson**

Perdido Key residents made it clear that they wanted a roundabout at the intersection that links Perdido Key Dr. to Johnson Beach/Gulf Islands National Seashore during a public input meeting on the topic held in June of 2020. Those attending substantially favored the option over doing nothing at all or installing a stoplight.

But Escambia County will accept additional public input on the intersection's future during a second public workshop for the Perdido Key Drive at Johnson Beach Road Intersection Project on Thursday, April 29 from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Perdido Key Community Center/Fire Station. The meeting will serve as the last opportunity to express public input before design is finalized, according to a press release. It will include opportunities for attendees to view project boards in open house style and submit public comments.

The roundabout option will incorporate safety protocols for those crossing the road from the Perdido Key Multi-Use Path along Perdido Key Drive to Johnson Beach Rd.

The roundabout was the most expensive of the three options, but would do the most to reduce the severity of traffic accidents, according to County officials.

In a Perdido Key Association (PKA) sponsored property owner survey from 2020, about half of the respondents were in favor of a roundabout at that intersection, with the other half split between a traffic signal and the do nothing options.

"From that meeting and presumably other studies, the County has moved forward to plan a roundabout. I am not aware of the options remaining to consider, but they may deal with things like how a crosswalk and linkage to the Perdido Key Multi-Use Path will be accomplished and perhaps how approach zones with speed limits, lane markings, etc., will be designed," said PKA president Charles Krupnick.

A recording of the workshop will be made available for viewing on YouTube, along with an online comment form the following day. For more info, call 850-595-1647 or email [cmr@myescambia.com](mailto:cmr@myescambia.com).

The Perdido Key Multi-Use Path project will extend approximately 6.2 miles from the Alabama-Florida state line eastward through Perdido Key State Park to River Road. Construction of the eight foot wide paved path has begun at the west end of Perdido Key State Park and moving toward the Alabama state line.

**Pictured:** The Perdido Key Multi-Use Path is now under construction.



## ALDOT will take bids on 2nd G.S. Intracoastal Bridge May 28

The final piece needed for clearance to build a bridge over the Intracoastal Waterway to Canal Road in east Gulf Shores has been cleared, Southwest Region Assistant Engineer Brian Aaron of the Alabama Department of Transportation said.

"ALDOT has the (U.S. Army Corps of Engineer) permit in hand," Aaron said. "There are no more hurdles to clear from permitting standpoint."

Aaron said the plan is to build the bridge first and then bid out the work for the spur from the Beach Express to Cotton Creek Drive in Gulf Shores.

"The bridge is still planned and ALDOT is scheduled to take bids May 28," Aaron said. "Assuming a fair bid is accepted, work should start in August."

This portion of the work would include a roundabout on Canal Road at the south landing point of the new bridge. Aaron said the bridge part of the project would take "roughly two years" to complete.

There is no date scheduled for accepting bids for the spur road but plans are continuing, Aaron said.

"The project is still moving forward," Aaron said. "The

city property is the last tract to clear on the roadway portion between the Beach Express and County Road 4. All of rights of way have been acquired."

The first agenda for the April 19 Gulf Shores City Council work session contained an item relinquishing rights of way to the state for the Beach Express to Cotton Creek Drive for the spur. It was pulled from the agenda before the meeting to clarify some map issues with ALDOT, City Engineer Mark Acreman said.

The waiver of rights to appraisal and just compensation, when it occurs, will to convey 26.37 acres of public rights-of-way to ALDOT for the purposes of the construction a public roadway.

Part of the new road the state is planning from the Beach Express to Cotton Creek will cross the city's future education campus at the Beach Express and Coastal Gateway Boulevard.

Plans for this long-delayed project include connecting to Waterway Village Boulevard East and the bridge across the Intracoastal Waterway near the Orange Beach Water Authority's treatment plant.





# RESIDENT TOWN HALL

Thursday, April 29, 2021  
Erie H. Meyer Civic Center  
6 PM - 8 PM

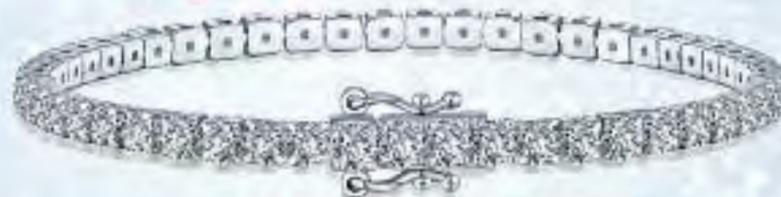
Please join us for the first 2021 City of Gulf Shores Resident Town Hall meeting!

This series will allow residents to learn about and provide input on multiple community enhancement projects happening throughout Gulf Shores.

Topics covered at this meeting will include transportation projects, proposed improvements to police and fire rescue facilities, parks and recreation facilities, environmental efforts, and an update on Gulf Shores City Schools.

For more information, email [communications@gulfshoresal.gov](mailto:communications@gulfshoresal.gov).

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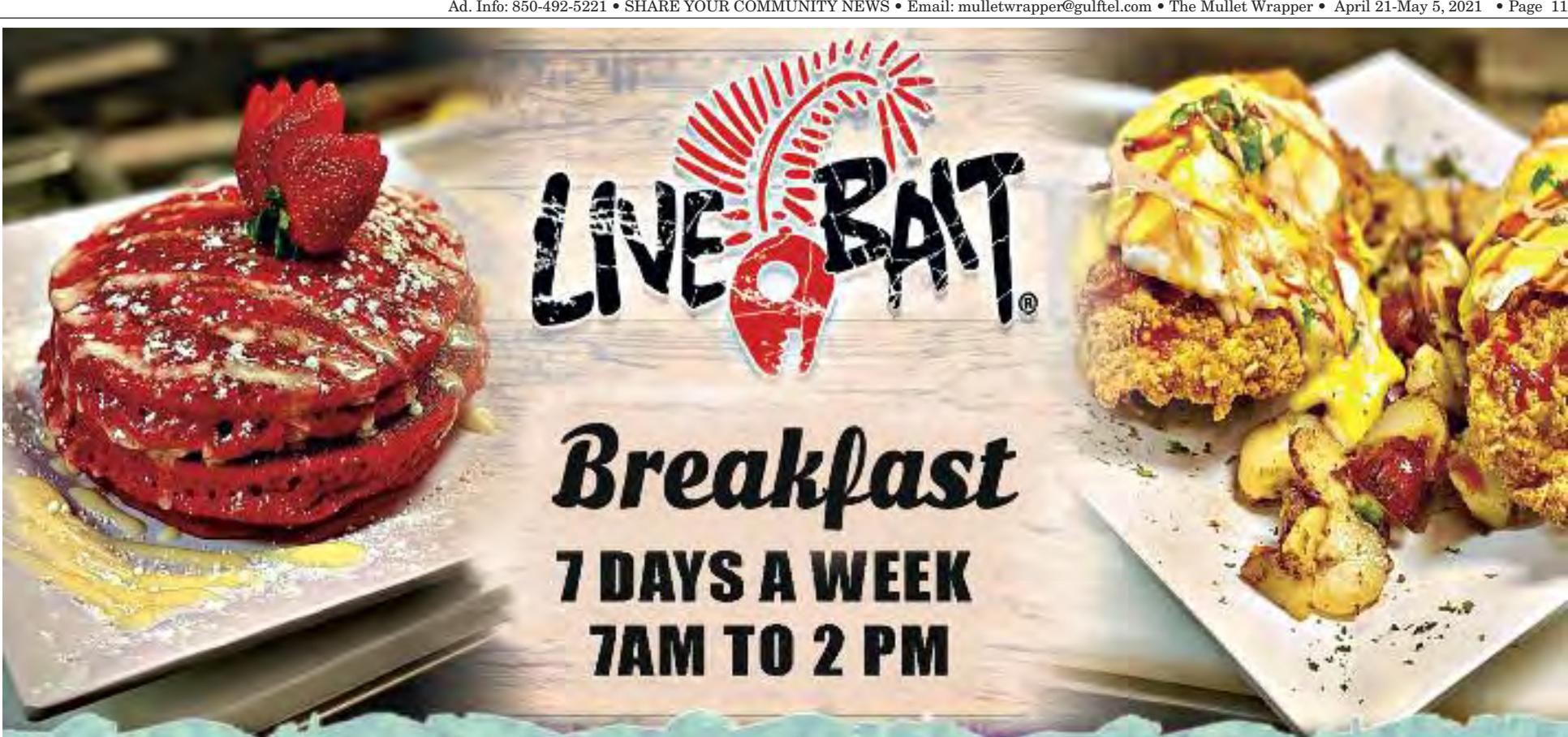
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## AROUND TOWN

### Mosher guest speaker at May 4 Ancient Aviators gathering

Fairhope based artist Dean Mosher (pictured) will talk about his craft, including a mural of Wilbur Wright flying around the Statue of Liberty, when he addresses the May 4 gathering of the Ancient Aviators social group at American Legion Post 44 in Gulf Shores at 8:30 a.m. The group, formed in 2002, gives aviators and others a chance to “tell their story.” A full breakfast is available for \$6, and visitors are always welcome. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month Info: bensman84@aol.com or 251-990-8258.



Mosher has served on numerous organization boards, including five years as Historian General of the Naval Order of the United States. He has been honored with many awards, including the Commander General’s medal for saving the archives of the NOUS. He is often sought out for lectures and presentations around the country and was the first Naval Heritage

Lecture presenter for the Surface Navy Association at its Annual National Symposium at the Crystal City Hyatt in Alexandria, Virginia, in 2004.

His work has also appeared in many books, including *The U.S. Air Force: A Complete History*, published by the Air Force Historical Foundation and the National Air & Space Museum; *Thomas Macdonough: Master of Command in the Early U.S. Navy* (Naval Historical Press); *Oliver Hazard Perry: Honor, Courage, and Patriotism in the Early U.S. Navy* (Naval Historical Press); *The Sixty Years’ War for the Great Lakes, 1754–1814* (Michigan State Historical Press); *West Wind, Flood Tide: The Battle of Mobile Bay* (Naval Historical Press) and *Glorious Companions Vol. 1&2*. Other publications that have used Mosher’s work include *Naval History*, *Golf Digest*, and *Shipmate*. His artwork has also been seen in documentaries produced for the National Park Service and public television.

### Semi-annual Shred It Day April 22 at Foley City Hall

The City of Foley will host its semi-annual Shred It Day on April 22 from 3-5 p.m. behind City Hall at 407 E. Laurel Ave. Bring your old bank statements, mortgages and other any other paperwork that you wish to have destroyed. This is for residential recycle only. For more info, call 251-943-1545.

### Young Professionals host May 2 cornhole tourney

The Lower Alabama Young Professionals will host a Barks, Bags, & Brews Cornhole Tournament on May 2 from 2-5 p.m. in conjunction with a fundraiser & pet adoption event with the Safe Harbor Animal Coalition on the Intracoastal Waterway boardwalk at The Wharf in Orange Beach. Contact penny@mygulfoastchamber.com for sponsorship or entry info. A portion of all proceeds from the 24 team tournament will support Safe Harbor. Various prizes are at stake.



### Whyte Caps will reunite May 8 to raise funds for GCMMF

Whyte Caps, a Pleasure Island based band originally formed in 2011, will reunite on Saturday, May 8 at The Point Restaurant on Innerarity Point for a show to benefit the Gulf Coast Musicians Medical Fund to assist musicians with medical expenses (Info).

Josh Newcom will kick off the evening at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at The Point, through Venmo App @whytecapsband or at the door.

A power trio consisting of Chris Beverly on lead vocals and guitar, Kyle Thornton on drums, and Ryan Hensley on bass and vocals, the band had a large local following, performed on WALA Fox Studio10, 96WLYB Radio and WSRE’s StudioAmped, was picked up on TK101’s Under the Underground and released an inaugural EP, “Four in the Van,” produced by the late Matt Roberts, lead guitarist for 3 Doors Down.

Whyte Caps, would go on to play over 600 shows across the Southeast, 10 festivals and open for Marshall Tucker Band, Fuel and Smash Mouth. Sponsors for the fundraiser produced by Harper Live Entertainment include Playa del Rio RV Resort, Sandy Roots Records, Flora-Bama, Kammer Chiropractic, Frank Brown Songwriters Festival, Sam Glass Music and Art, Perdido Key Chamber of Commerce, SunStorm Therapeutics, LiveMusicLineup.com and GCMMF.

## GSHS students & AeroPro to build planes from kits as part of aviation program

### Gulf Shores City Schools looking for aviation mentors

Gulf Shores City Schools will buy an airplane kit for its students to build and, for some students, fly in the final product at its April meeting, voting to spend about \$74,000 to start and \$11,300 annually to continue a two-year program that will completely immerse students in all things aviation.

“We started an aviation program last year where our kids after going through four different classes would be qualified to pass the written pilot’s exam,” Superintendent Matt Akin said. “We’re expanding that program this with a nonprofit called Tango Flight.” He said, “here are about 25 school systems in the country that do it.”

That cost is a one-time payment and the program continues as long as the school system wants it to continue and pays the annual costs for training and class materials at about \$11,300. If Gulf Shores decides it wants out of the program Tango Flight would reimburse the city for the initial \$74,000 deposit, Akin said.

“They provide all the curriculum, we’ll buy a kit from there,” Akin said. “It’s a two-man airplane (pictured). They help train our teachers and our

mentors and we’re partnering with AeroPro and the airport authority. Our class will actually take place in AeroPro’s big hanger where they do maintenance of planes. It’s really exciting.”

Akin hopes the program will spur students to participate in the school’s STEM curriculum.

“For us it’s about aviation because the jobs in that industry keep growing, but also it’s about attracting kids into STEM fields,” Akin said. “It’s pretty exciting to me to be hanging out in a hangar building airplanes. You don’t get that in most places.”

According to a Powerpoint Akin presented at the April 15 meeting, the future need for aviation personnel in the coming years is staggering. It’s estimated in the next decade the industry will need 112,000 new pilots and 118,000 new aviation mechanics and technicians.

The school system is also looking for mentors to help teach in the program. Anyone interested in participating can email Akin at makin@gsboe.org.

Since 2016, Tango Flight has worked with educators and aviation experts across the country to develop the STEM-focused educational program. Partnering with Wichita State University and the Airbus Foundation, they created an innovative cur-

riculum that provides students with a strong mechanical, electrical and aerospace engineering foundation.

Mobile’s B.C. Rain High School was one of the first schools to start a Tango Flight program. Students and an instructor flew the B.C. Rain plane in November and students are now working on the second one.



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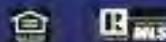
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## ORANGE BEACH CITY COUNCIL

# City works deal with GSP to provide residents free parking at beaches

By John Mullen

It's official. Orange Beach residents will be able to get two decals for free parking at Gulf State Park beach access points when the park is able to activate pay kiosks at four points in the city.

The city council OK'd the agreement with the state park at its joint work and regular session on April 20. Residents can also buy a third pass for \$25 but

**Residents can also buy a third pass for \$25, but each household will be limited to a total of three**

each household will be limited to a total of three.

The agreement between the two includes maintenance at the access points by Orange Beach and the state will pay \$25,000 a quarter to the city for the services. Gulf State Park will make the first payment on Aug. 1

also pay the city of Orange Beach for actual costs incurred (including labor and materials) for providing routine maintenance services for beach and beach access locations at the Gulf State Park," the agreement states.

Among the services the city will provide at the Alabama Point, Cotton Bayou, Romar and Shell Beach access points includes janitorial and house-keeping services as well as any needed maintenance of the facilities at each. The city will continue to groom and rake all state beaches in Orange Beach as well as continue to provide lifeguard services.

Gulf State Park will be responsible for providing electricity to the facilities.

The Gulf State Park pay parking kiosks have been in place for about two months but the state is still working out kinks in the program.

Mayor Tony Kennon said he and other city officials have been working with the state park to get free parking for residents.

That's (the beaches) not ours but we have been working out something with the state on residents of Orange Beach having free use of those parking spaces. I think they are supposed to crank up charging on April 23," Mayor Tony Kennon said at the April 6 City Council meeting. I don't know that by then all of the mechanics of how it will actually work will be in place."

"We're on the tail end of this," Kennon said then. "I don't know if we can have our decals registration done by that date. If we can we will. But don't hold

us to it because we're somewhat at the mercy of state and their progression."

A new program will involve actual physical residences passes for the free program.

"What we are going to hopefully see is two decals per households," Kennon said. "Households means you have an Alabama driver's license with an Orange Beach address and there has to be a resident dwelling on that property. You have to live here you have to have made the effort to be part of our community. There's no way a large number of property owners and residents could be accommodated. The numbers were overwhelming and there would be no reason to charge for parking because it would be full of our folks."

City Administrator Ken Grimes said there would be options for nonresidents to buy long-term passes.

"When they are ready to release this and it will be very soon, there will be

**"Funds from the parking we've been assured by the state will stay in Gulf State Park."**

options for those who do not live in Orange Beach to buy an annual pass," Grimes said. "I believe that number is still fixed at \$100 for a year. That gets you parking at any beach access owned by the state park. Otherwise, it comes down to a daily or hourly. You can use credit cards or cash but it does not give change. You have to have exact change."

Grimes said city officials insisted that the funds gathered be put back into Gulf State Park and some of those funds would reimburse the city for repairs at the beach accesses and Backcountry Trail parking and boardwalk maintenance.

"The funds from the parking we've been assured by the state that they do stay in Gulf State Park," Grimes said. "That is important for the state park itself and ultimately how they operate. Those repairs I mentioned would be a reimbursement program coming from those funds generated by parking and hopefully repairs can be done quicker so the public's not seeing a board missing or a plumbing issue and things like that."

## Canal Rd. Expansion

The ultimate goal for completion of this project is Memorial Day but some of the ancillary work may still be undone when that date rolls around.

"We hope that Canal Road will be done

by Memorial Day," Kennon said. "Our goal is we have to finish a little bit of shoulder work and what's left on that south side this week. Then they'll come in and repave and restripe. Then we'll come back and repave the whole five lanes. We'll come back and temporarily stripe it again and at that point we hope that is done before Memorial Day. If we get lucky and they get it all in before Memorial Day, great. But if anything's left off it will be the permanent striping which would move until after the summer."

While Memorial Day is the traditional start of the summer season, Grimes said that the city is already experiencing summer-like numbers in visitors and traffic. Kennon said it will only intensify as summer draws nearer.

"We've still got a busy summer coming," Kennon said. "There's no doubt in my mind short of something catastrophic we're doing to see record numbers. It's coming and we've got to prepare for it and we as a city are going to do everything we can do to move traffic, to do what we need to do. We're trying to bring on more officers right now and we need more officers because of the number of people that are here.

## FEMA Payments

Orange Beach is not alone in frustration over delayed payments from FEMA for Sally cleanup costs.

"We have \$14 million sitting out there we're trying to get reimbursed for the city of Orange Beach," Kennon said. "Hopefully, we are rallying with all the mayors in the county, county commissioners and there was some in Mobile affected with our governor and hopefully we're going to find out what the holdup is. But \$14 million

**"Hopefully we're going to find out what the holdup is. But \$14 million is a lot of money."**

is a lot of money."

It's having a ripple effect on other improvements city leaders have plans on getting started and completing as quickly as possible.

"The things we had on the drawing board to do right away are put in jeopardy because we have a reserve amount we feel comfortable having," Kennon said. "This money should come back into our coffers. We don't need to be an antagonist. I do think it's important that people understand there are things

which we want to get done right away as well as being frugal in these times and how we spend our money and the timing of how we spend our money. The economy is roaring to me which is not sustainable which scares me. At the same time, we want to make very sure that we maintain a reserve in case we get another storm this summer."

## During the regular meeting, council:

- Passed a resolution authorizing the purchase of two pickup trucks for the Utilities Department for \$80,700 in the form of two 2021 Ford F-150 Pickup Trucks at \$40,350 each.
- Passed a resolution awarding the bid for a message board for the Public Works Department to Safety Zone Specialists in the amount of \$16,375.
- Passed a resolution awarding the bid for 2021 Roadway Resurfacing to Roads of Northwest Florida in an amount not to exceed \$429,000.
- Passed a resolution authorizing execution of a professional services agreement with Jody Hodo for softball coaching services.
- Passed a resolution authorizing the execution of a service agreement with Harbor Communications to connect fiber to the new Adult Fitness Center.
- Passed a resolution authorizing the purchase of fitness equipment for the Adult Fitness Center currently being built through Sourcewell in the amount of \$163,153.

## In session, council discussed:

- An interagency agreement for cooperative services at the Gulf State Park.
- Setting a public hearing to declare 22 vessels as abandoned after Hurricane Sally and authorizing disposal. The date suggested was April 20.
- A resolution authorizing a franchise for Armor Environmental to remove and dispose of commercial solid waste and to remove and transport construction and demolition debris.
- A resolution authorizing execution of professional services agreements for special needs aides for the Expect Excellence program.
- A resolution awarding the proposal for the Edward H. Carroll, Sr., Kids Park Playground to Playworld Preferred.
- Resolution authorizing the execution of a covenant of purpose, use and ownership with the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council for the Orange Beach North Sewer Force Main Upgrade. The Restore Act SEP sub-award agreement requires that this covenant be executed ensuring the city improves real property utilizing federal funds and therefore the federal interest in said project/improvements for the estimated useful life.
- An ordinance to update police fees for special events and parades.

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### Station

Classic Eggs Benedict  
Slow Roasted Prime Rib

### Hot Line Buffet

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# Alabama red snapper season opens May 28

## Anglers can fish four day weekends until quota filled

Alabama state waters and federal waters will open to private vessel anglers for red snapper fishing on Friday, May 28. The season will consist of four-day weekends, Friday through Monday, beginning Friday, May 28, and continue until the private angler quota is projected to be met.

The exact Alabama private angler quota has not yet been provided by the National Marine Fisheries service, but is anticipated to be similar to the 2020 quota.

These dates only apply to anglers fishing from recreational vessels and state-licensed Alabama commercial party boats that do not hold federal for-hire fishing permits.

The Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Management Council voted in April to partially incorporate the Great Red Snapper Count, which estimated the red snapper population in the Gulf is three times higher than previous estimates, into the Gulf Council management process. However, that action may have little impact on the 2021 red snapper season.

“The Scientific and Statistical Committee is the science advisory panel for the Gulf Council,” said Scott Bannon, Director of the Alabama Marine Resources Division. “The purpose of the meeting was to review the Great Red Snapper Count, provide feedback and decide if it should be used in the interim analysis for red snapper this year and how it should be applied.”

The Great Red Snapper Count estimated the abundance of red snapper in the Gulf at 110 million fish. Previous assessments from NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) Fisheries estimated the number of red snapper at 36 million fish.

“The committee voted on whether that data was the best science available for setting the overfishing limit,” Bannon said. “They voted that in. The number they chose for the overfishing limit was 25.6 million pounds. The Magnuson-Stevens Act states that you cannot exceed that overfishing limit or immediate changes will have to be implemented to prevent overfishing.”

Bannon said the previous overfishing limit was set at 15.5 million pounds, so the new recommended overfishing limit is a 10.1 million-pound increase. The committee then recommended that the acceptable biological catch (ABC) be set at 15.4 million pounds, which Bannon vigorously questioned.

“That’s a 10 million-pound difference from the overfishing limit,” he said.

“That’s a 44-percent buffer, which I’m

disappointed in. That is relatively unheard of in fisheries management. I am pleased with the recommended increase in the overfishing limit. I’m not pleased with the ABC.”

The Gulf Council will set the annual catch limit (ACL) for allocations among the five Gulf states for the 2021 season.

“With only 300,000 new pounds available, that’s a negligible increase,” Bannon said. “That increase would

potentially be applied to all of the sectors – commercial, charter and private anglers.”

Another hurdle for private anglers is NOAA Fisheries is pushing that the catch data from the Marine Recreation Information

Program (MRIP) survey and state reporting systems be “calibrated,” which could significantly impact Alabama’s quota and reduce the number of fishing days for private recreational anglers.

“Our goal is to avoid calibration,” Bannon said. “With calibration, Alabama and Mississippi allocations would be cut in half.”

Under calibration alternatives, Alabama’s quota for red snapper could go from 1.12 million pounds in 2020 to 547,298 pounds in 2021.

“Naturally we didn’t agree with that,” Bannon said. “NOAA Fisheries said that was going to be required because the fishery may have met the overfishing limit in 2019. The catch for 2019 barely exceeded the 15.5 million-pound limit by 150,000 pounds. That is Gulf-wide in all sectors, including private anglers, for-hire and commercial, but with the new Great Red Snapper Count data, whether there was overfishing at all in 2019 is in question.”

“Our goal at the upcoming Gulf Council meeting is to postpone any calibration until the Great Red Snapper Count is fully integrated into the stock assessment so that Alabama and Mississippi would fish at the same level we’ve fished for the previous couple of years under the EFP (Exempted Fishing Permit) and state management, which is around a million pounds.”

The MRIP surveys have considerably overestimated red snapper catches compared to Alabama’s Red Snapper Reporting System, known as Snapper Check.

“We say we landed about a million pounds, but the MRIP survey says we landed about 2.5 million pounds,” Ban-

non said. “We have a monitoring program that we feel is accurate, and we are harvesting at a sustainable level.”

“The Great Red Snapper Count says there are 10 million red snapper off the coasts of Alabama and Mississippi. We’re not getting the access to those fish that we would like. Across the Gulf, the count says there are 110 million fish, so no state is really getting the access to the fish we think they should.”

Anglers fishing from federally permitted for-hire vessels have their own 63-day season beginning June 1 at 12:01 a.m. local time through August 3 at 12:01 a.m. local time.

As in recent years, Alabama will use Snapper Check to monitor landings

during the season and will provide semi-weekly updates at outdooralabama.com.

The National Marine Fisheries service 2020 quota was 1,122,662 pounds. When the 2021 quota,

which is expected to be about the same, is anticipated to be met, the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources’ Marine Resources Division will announce a closure date.

Weekends are defined as 12:01 a.m. Friday through 11:59 p.m. Monday. The daily bag limit will be two red snapper per person, per day with a minimum size limit of 16 inches total length.

“I applaud the Gulf Council’s decision to reject the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s (NOAA) misguided attempts to cut Alabama’s red

snapper season after recognizing there is three times the amount of red snapper in the Gulf than they previously estimated,” said Alabama Senator Jerry Carl. “I’m grateful the Council listened to the advice of local leaders and anglers who know how to manage their own fisheries, instead of listening to D.C. bureaucrats.”

Anglers over the age of 16 must have an Alabama saltwater fishing license (resident or non-resident, annual or trip), and any Alabama resident 65 or older or a lifetime saltwater license holder must have a current saltwater angler registration and an Alabama Gulf Reef Fish Endorsement to possess gulf reef fish. Both are free and available at outdooralabama.com.

Anglers under 16 are not required to be licensed, possess an Alabama Gulf Reef Fish Endorsement or have saltwater angler registration, but their catch must be included in a landing report.

Each vessel landing red snapper in Alabama is required by law to complete one landing report per vessel trip of their harvested red snapper through Snapper Check prior to removing the fish from the boat or the boat with the fish being removed from the water. All red snapper landed are required to be reported prior to landing regardless of the jurisdiction in which they were caught.

Greater amberjack and gray trigger fish are also required to be reported and may be included in the same report.

A landing report may be submitted through Snapper Check in the Outdoor AL app, which is available from Apple and Android stores or online at outdooralabama.com. Paper reports and drop boxes are no longer available.

“The Great Red Snapper Count says there are 10 million red snapper off the coasts of Alabama and Mississippi. We’re not getting the access to those fish that we would like.”





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# Fish will fly from the 'Bama April 23-25 (full schedule on pages 28-29)

**By Fran Thompson**

Tens of thousands of folks from throughout the nation & all walks of life will soon descend upon the crystal white sands of an iconic roadhouse at the Alabama-Florida state line for the three day frenzy of food, fun and frivolity.

The event is the Flora-Bama's April 23-25 Mullet Toss weekend - officially The Interstate Mullet Toss & Gulf Coast's Greatest Beach Party.

Cover charge begins at 9 a.m. Friday, and admission is \$10 per day for those 21 and older and \$15 for 16-20 year olds, with 15 & under admitted free. The party is open to all ages until 6 p.m., at which point the event is for those 21 and up.

The Flora-Bama beach is open to the public, however, to enter the Flora-Bama you must purchase a wristband. Entry can be accessed via the Flora-Bama beach as well as the main entrance on Perdido Key Drive. No outside coolers or alcohol can be brought onto Flora-Bama's licensed property. The Flora-Bama will have multiple bars on the beach selling drinks and plenty avail-

able inside the bar.

Membership cards are good for entry during Mullet Toss. Cards are available online or at the door for \$45 and are good for the entire year. The bar will be cash only for bar sales on Friday and Saturday, with plenty of ATM's available.

Parking on Flora-Bama property is free but extremely limited. The use of taxis, rideshare apps and carpooling is suggested. Any vehicles left overnight must be moved by 9 a.m. the next morning.

Originally conceived as an absurd and fun way to attract tourism dollars during the shoulder season, the 3-day event is now one of the busiest weekends

of the year, contributing over \$10 million to the local economy while raising funds for local charities, including the Community Drug & Alcohol Council.

The main event consists of folks throwing a mullet, a mystical fish possessing a gizzard, from Florida into Alabama.

Overall winners earn bragging rights, trophies, and gift certificates to local establishments. Trophies will be awarded 3-deep in 19 total age categories, male & female, for each day of the toss, with the

top four in each division facing off each day.

A Miss Mullet bikini contest will be held under the Tent Stage at 3 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and offer over \$2,000 in cash and prizes each day. The top three finalists both days will qualify for the Grand Miss Flora-Bama Contest and a chance to win \$5,000 Labor Day weekend.

A male hot body contest will be held just prior to the bikini contest each day at 1 p.m.

Since it is at the Flora-Bama, music plays a big part in the festivities. Starting at 11 a.m. each day, more than 50 acts will share five stages, including Lea Anne Creswell, Scott Koehn, Ryan Dyar, Justin Jensemble, bands led by Mario Mena, Jenna Mclelland and Brue Smelley, The Red Clay Strays, J Hawkins, Saucy Fuzz, Smokey Otis, Yeah Probably, Skyline Kings, The Perdido Brothers and Johnny Hayes and the Loveseats. **(See full music schedule on page 29).**

The four Flora-Bama eateries on campus - the Flora-Bama Yacht Club, the Flora-Bama Ole River Grill, The Tippy Taco and the original Flora-Bama Lounge and Oyster Bar - will feature oysters, shrimp, oysters and Bama Burgers. The team from the Mudbug Mafia will be serving crawfish.

There are rules for flinging mullets. Contestants must select a mullet from the water bucket themselves. Wearing gloves and loading up a mullet with bal- last before flinging are not allowed.

All competitors must retrieve their own

fish and return it to the water bucket. Stepping out of the circle before tossing or tossing the fish out of bounds are other will also keep you out of the running for a title. Tossers have only one chance to qualify for the finals each day. Those who can manage to throw more than 100 ft. have a very good chance of at least plac- ing.

Tossing techniques are as varied as the contestants themselves. For most, the best strategy is to fold the fish and pre- tend like you are trying to gun down a runner at the plate from center field.

Longtime competitor Wes Durham said at a past Toss that he likes to give his fish a pre-flight sip of beer. "Food for flight," he called it.

Many Mullet Toss patrons will make condo and hotel reservations for 2022 while in town this year.

"They could come here on July 4th or Memorial Day or Labor Day. But they decide that something we created was going to be their weekend to have a party, and they come back every year," said Flora-Bama co-owner Pat McClellan.

"It's a tradition for a lot of people, and they respect that tradition and respect each other. We have less problems with crowds than during the major holiday weekends," he added.

The Toss has been written up in the Wall Street Journal and hundreds of other major newspapers around the country. The event was even featured in Sports Illustrated. For more info, visit florabama.com or facebook.

**Pictured:** 2020 Mullet Toss scenes.

**"We have less problems with crowds at the Mullet Toss than during the major holiday week- ends. It's a tradition for a lot of people, and they respect that tradition and respect each other."**





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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## PIER & SHORE FISHING OUTLOOK

By DAVID "THE PIERPOUNDER" THORNTON

### Late April time pompano fishermen dream about

Maybe there should be a new saying around here "April showers bring May pompano?" Because the weather has been extremely wet and stormy the past couple of weeks. Persistent rain showers, even with thunder and lightening at times (including that historic hail storm), along with some fairly rough surf and dingy water have plagued pier and shore anglers recently.

But that trend appears to be changing for the better, with much less rain and calmer seas forecast as the more violent aspects of April weather tend to become less frequent and move farther northward toward the end of the month. We can expect coastal water temperatures, now in the upper 60s, to tip into the low 70s over the coming weeks. All that bodes well for anglers intent on catching Florida pompano before they head offshore to spawn after the next full moon on April 27. That event comes at the end of a three-day NEAP tide cycle which could slow the bite. But it probably won't have as much an effect on fishing as the local weather and wave conditions during that period.

Late April is THE time of year pompano fishermen dream about, and live for. Large spawning aggregations gather in the surf zone all long the Alabama/ Northwest Florida coast in anticipation of their spawn next month. Thousands of these fish move into the warming near shore water to feed, seek refuge and make new friends. Of course, many of those 'friends' are surf and pier anglers intent on inviting a few home for dinner. Yes, as the main course ;-). A lot of new anglers catch their first pompano ever, and many new personal bests are posted on social media this month.

#### Pompano or pompa-YES?

Surf angling to target pompano this time of year can be about as simple as fishing gets. Though conditions vary from day to day, and even during the course of each day, there are usually so many pompano moving through the area within casting distance from shore that most anglers have little problem catching their Alabama limit of 3 pompano (12 inch Total Length), or even the 6 that Florida allows (11 inch Fork Length). Often it doesn't take long when you are in the right place at the right time with the right setup. Just look for points along the beach with nearby sandbar drop-offs or cuts through the beach sandbar. Or if you have longer rods to cast farther out and over the longshore sandbar.

The double drop pompano rigs with small, brightly colored styrofoam floats have been performing well for beach anglers lately. And lime green or hot pink seem to be the colors of Fish-bites and Fishgum most preferred by the pompano. Many anglers tip their rigs with pieces of fresh shrimp or live sandfleas, which are becoming more prevalent in the swash zone. The hook is a circle or kahle style which do a great job of

keeping the fish on after the bite. The weight can range from less than an ounce (in calm conditions), 1 to 3 ounce pyramids in moderate surf, to heavy storm or sputnik type sinkers in rough surf and strong winds.

Baits range from bio-synthetic strips like Fish-bites and Fishgum to natural types like shrimp, sandfleas and ghost shrimp. The later may help tempt fish that may be a bit more skittish, though more and more pompano anglers are fishing primarily with the synthetic strips alone. Especially when making long casts with heavy weights that would tear the hook from soft natural baits. The trick is to judge the conditions to know how to approach the situation. Or try a variety of baits and styles until you can establish a pattern the pompano respond to. Most beach anglers are content to cast out several double drop rigs, put the rod in a sand spike, and wait for a bite. Meanwhile, patrons on the Gulf State Park Pier are restricted to using one rod at a time to ease the crowding out there. Also, those fishing "the nub" south of the middle platform are strongly encouraged to cast underhanded whenever the pier gets crowded. And it can get so quickly when the spanish mackerel or pompano are 'running'.

Recent pompano catches have been sprinkled with some large "whiting" (Gulf kingfish) and redfish of double digit weight, and even some sheepshead, bluefish and spanish mackerel. It seems like most of the hardhead catfish are staying farther west toward Mobile Bay which has been extremely fresh. Once the water gets calmer and clearer pompano jigs, Goofy jigs and Silly Willy rigs will work better to locate the fast-moving schools of pompano. Watch out for ladyfish though, as they should be appearing in greater numbers over the coming weeks. As well, we should see an influx of Scaled and False sardines (called "LYs") within a couple of weeks, as water temperatures sustain in the low 70s. That will make jig fishing from the Perdido Pass seawall and west jetty even more productive. In addition to many of the parking lot lights having been repaired (by the Town of Orange Beach). Many spanish mackerel and bluefish have been caught there recently. Using live shrimp, even a few sheepshead are still available along with occasional flounder and mangrove snapper. Remember though, you must have a \$10 Reef Fish Endorsement in addition to your Alabama salt-water fishing license to retain mangrove snapper.

Even in 'good times' pompano fishing is often a waiting game that may take hours between bites. My advice is to get there early, set up and fish for a while. Then take a break and maybe return later in the afternoon. By mid day the beaches get crowded with folks intent on swimming. Everybody has rights to be on the beach, so as a representative of the fishing community, please keep things respectable. Sometimes you may be able to 'stand your ground', or relocate a little farther from large groups. But you may need to yield to those other folks to prevent any incidences. Main thing is for everyone to have a good time. So, be respectful of other fishermen, beach walkers, or swimmers. Also, NEVER trespass. And by all means, catch some pompano while you and they are here!

### WED, APRIL 21

- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** Schedule on Page 28; Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Family Friendly Bingo:** 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- **Bama Beach Pickleball Club:** 9:00noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
- **Brandon Blackburn:** 5; Woodside Restaurant at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- **Alvarado Road Show:** 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Anthony Oliver:** 5; Live Bait; Orange Beach.
- **Lisa Zanghi:** 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- **Jenna McClelland:** 6; Stephi Cocktails-Cuisine; Orange Beach.
- **Open Mic:** 5; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
- **Mason Henderson's Saucy Fuzz:** 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- **Tim Roberts:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Fort Morgan.
- **Gary Story & Friends:** 7; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Scott Koehn Project:** 6; OSO; Orange Beach.
- **Karaoke:** 7; Bar 45 at ONE CLUB, Gulf Shores.
- **John Joiner & Darrel Roberts:** 6; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.

- **Tim Richardson:** 5; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
  - **Karaoke & League Pool:** 7:30; The Office, Foley.
  - **Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermen Market:** 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.; 20733 Milfin Rd. (County Rd. 20), Foley.
  - **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
  - **Bingo:** 10 a.m.; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
  - **BBRC Running Club:** 5:30 p.m.; Big Beach Brewery in Gulf Shores; laffet.com.
  - **Kiwanis Club of Big Lagoon:** 7:30 a.m.; (1st, 3rd, and 4th Tue); Point Church, 13801 Innerarity Point Rd., Pensacola.
  - **Foley Kiwanis Club:** noon; Vallarta's, 1145 S. McKenzie St., Foley; 859-771-6091.
  - **AA:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
  - **AA:** 7 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
  - **Al-Anon:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Activities Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
- THU, APRIL 22**
- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** Schedule on Page 28; Perdido Key.
  - **Foley Shred it Day:** 3-5 p.m.; Behind City Hall; free; 251-943-1545.



(Above) Robert Thornton with his personal best pompano (3.35 pounds) and Linda and Jack Goodwin with their first pompano. All were caught from Gulf State Park Pier. (Below-Full Story On Page 48) On Sunday April 18, Jason Mote caught a 24.5 inch pompano that certainly threatens Trish Cluck's record caught from the GSP Pier 11 years ago. For sure, he is currently leading the Sam's B&T 'Pomp Stomp' at 6.940 pounds.



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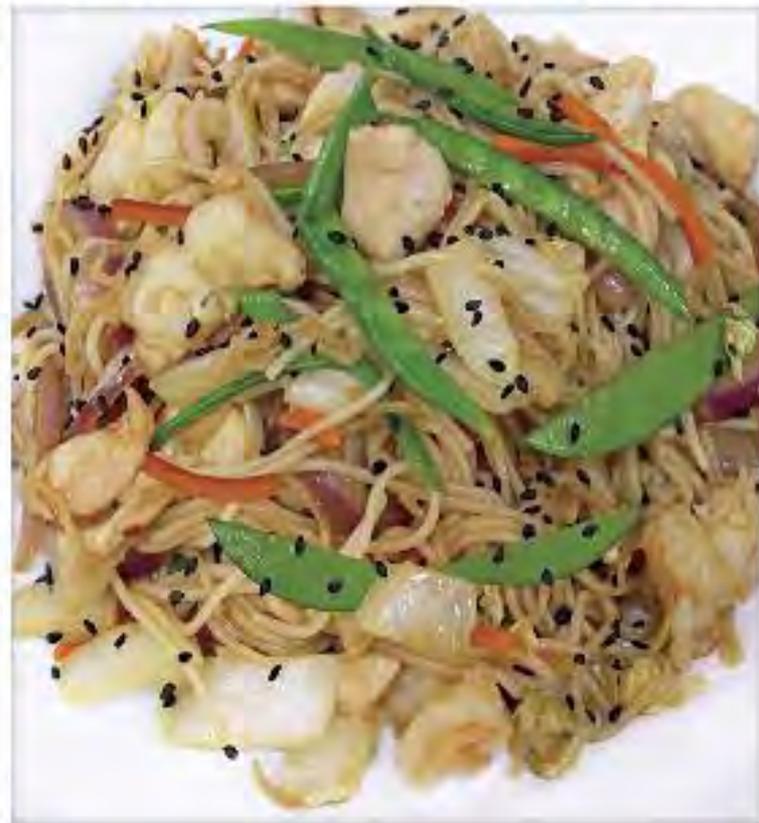
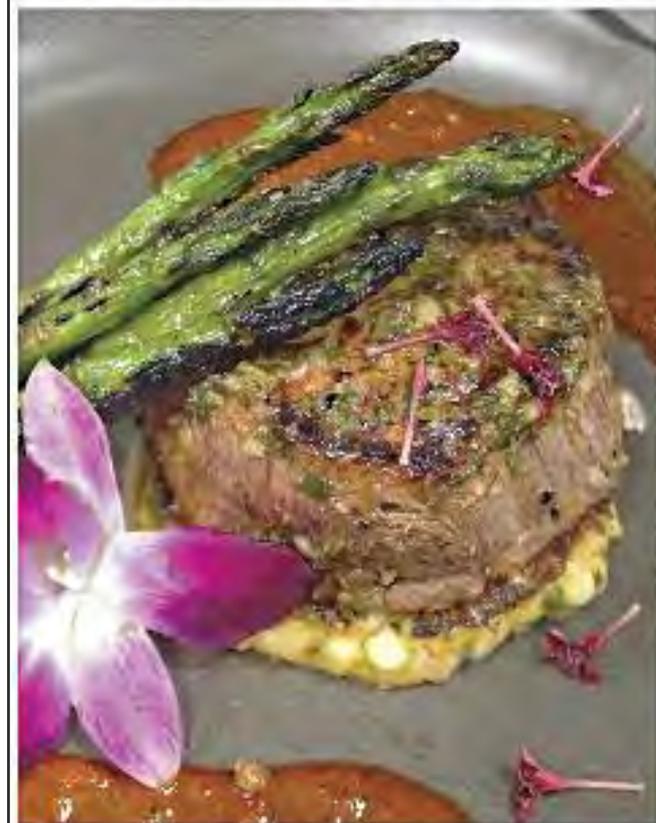
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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## COOKIN' WITH CAROLYN

BY CAROLYN GODFREY

### Tex-Mex Dip

3 avocados  
 2 Tbsp. lemon juice  
 1/2 tsp. salt  
 1/4 tsp. pepper  
 1 cup sour cream  
 1/2 cup mayonnaise  
 1 pkg. (1/4- 1-1/8 oz.) taco seasoning  
 2 cans (10-1/2 oz.) plain or jalapeno flavored bean dip  
 1 bunch green onions, chopped (1 cup)  
 3 tomatoes, cored, seeded, coarsely chopped (2 cups)  
 2 cans (3-1/2 oz.) pitted ripe olives, drained, coarsely chopped  
 8 oz. sharp cheddar cheese, shredded  
 pkg. large round tortilla chips  
 Peel, pit and mash avocado in a bowl with lemon juice, salt and pepper. Combine sour cream, mayonnaise and taco seasoning in another bowl.  
 To assemble:  
 Spread bean dip on a large shallow platter; top with seasoned avocado mixture; layer with sour cream, mayonnaise and taco mixture. Sprinkle with chopped onions, tomatoes and olives; cover with shredded cheese. Serve chilled or at room temperature with round tortilla chips. Serves: 16  
**Enjoy!**

## 48th St. Benedict German Fest April 24 in Elberta

The 48th Annual German Festival at St. Benedict Catholic School in Elberta will be held on Saturday, April 24 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event will comply with social distancing guidelines, but there will still be homemade German food like sausages, potato salad, pastries, strudels and kiffels. Raffle tickets will also be available for \$100 each with a chance to win \$7,000, \$2,000, and \$1,000 in cash prizes the day of the event.

For more information, call St. Benedict Catholic School at 251-986-8143

In conjunction with the school's annual fundraiser, the German Festival, St. Benedict Catholic School will host its 34th Annual Raven Run on April 24 to benefit the SBCS tuition assistance program. This year's registration fee for participants is \$30 (\$25 for students). The walk/run will be held virtually this year and participants are encouraged to pick a location where they feel comfortable and safe like a local park, school, neighborhood, or gym.



### Will Kimbrough, Molly Thomas, John Milham, Corky Hughes live

Some of the Gulf Coast's best musicians, including Will Kimbrough, Molly Thomas, Corky Hughes and John Milham, will be performing end of April home town shows.

The sixth-annual MudBottom Revival Music Festival will be held on April 25 at (below) Bender Point, located at 3619 Riviere Du Chien Road in Mobile from 1-4 p.m. Kimbrough and Thomas and her band, The Rare Birds. The site will be set up for viewing the bands primarily by boat/kayak. Tickets must be pre-purchased. Money raised is earmarked for the improvement of water quality of the Dog River Watershed. Info: dogriver.org

The Mystic Order of the Jazz Obsessed's (MOJO) Jazz al Fresco event features Hughes, JoJo Morris and Milham (above) of Vibration Configuration reuniting on April 26 at 6-8:30 p.m. at the Central ArtSanctuary (parking lot) at 1260 Dauphin St. in Mobile. Free parking is offered at the Alabama School of Math and Science and on N. Georgia Ave.

Attendees are asked to bring seating and nonperishable donations. A food trailer and a children's playground will be onsite. Admission. Admission is \$10 for MOJO members and \$15 for guests. Tickets are available at eventbrite and at the gate.



- **Flora-Bama Family Friendly 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).
- **Alvarado Road Show:** 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Mel Knapp:** 5; Woodside Restaurant at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- **Funk You:** 6; Meyer Park; free family friendly concert; Gulf Shores.
- **JJ Mack:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Orange Beach.
- **John Brust:** 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- **Elaine Petty:** 5; Live Bait; Orange Beach.
- **Karaoke & Dance on The Deck:** 7; Live Bait; Orange Beach.
- **Karaoke:** 5; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke w. Howard:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.
- **Bar Trivia Night:** 5; Bar 45 Lounge at ONE CLUB, Gulf Shores.
- **Tim Roberts:** 6; The Tin Top Restaurant, Bon Secour.
- **The Favorites Band:** 7; Alabama Music Hall; Foley.
- **Karaoke w. Kelly:** 8; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Danny Grady:** 2; Fraternal Order of Eagles; Foley.
- **Karaoke:** 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- **Johnny Barbato Trio:** 6; Hub Stacy's In-

nerarity Point.

- **Bingo:** 5; open to all; Amvets Post 2018; 13085 Wisconsin St.; Elberta.
- **Texas Hold 'em:** 7; The Office, Foley.
- **Fairhope Outdoor Farmers Market:** 3-6 p.m.; behind Fairhope Public Library.
- **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 Marines 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, APRIL 23

- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** Schedule on Page 28; Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Family Friendly Bingo:** 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- **Bama Coast Cruzin':** The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **The Favorites Band:** 7; Alabama Music Hall; Foley.
- **Bama Beach Pickleball Club:** 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf

## Central Baldwin Prayer Breakfast May 6 at Robertsdale Coliseum Speaker Kerry Stevenson coached seven NFL players at Vigor

Kerry Stevenson (pictured) will be the guest speaker at the 17th Annual Central Baldwin Prayer Breakfast on May 6 at the Baldwin County Coliseum in Robertsdale. Tickets are \$25 per person



or \$185 for a table seating eight. Breakfast starts at 6:30 a.m. and the program at 7 a.m. Stop by the Central Baldwin Chamber of Commerce office to purchase tickets or call 251-947-2626 or email bbutler@centralbaldwin.com The breakfast is in celebration of the National Day of Prayer. Community churches and businesses come together to pray over the nation, schools, military, communities and churches. The breakfast attracts 350 people including elected officials, church leaders and the community at large.

Stevenson spent six years as director of player development at Alabama under Nick Saban, after a decorated career as a high school football head coach and teacher.

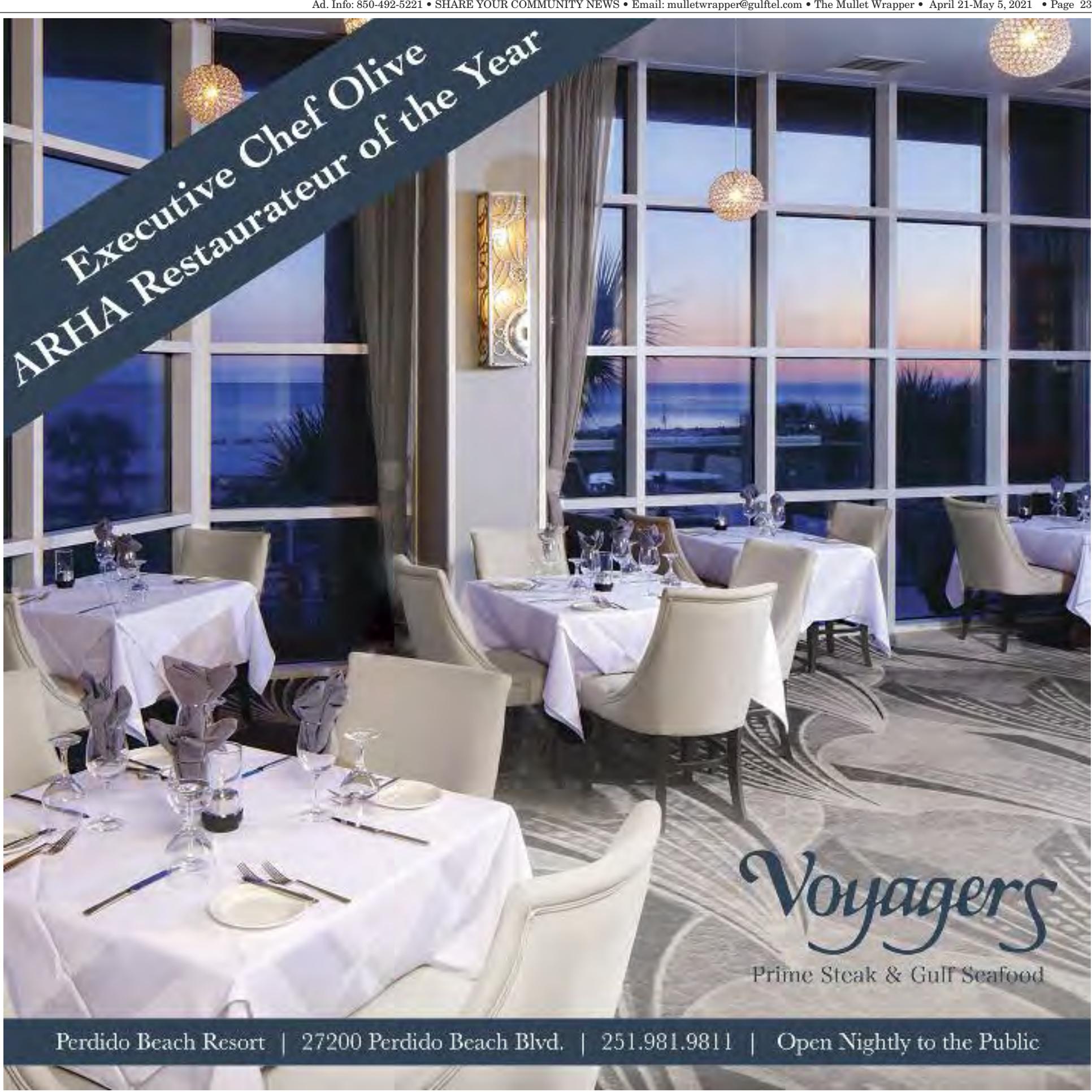
As head coach for Vigor High School in Prichard, Stevenson led his team to a perfect 15-0 season and the 2008 state championship and was the state runner-up in 2011. Seven of his players would go on to have stints in the NFL.

His combined passion for education and athletics has motivated thousands of students to attend college and helped hundreds of student-athletes to gain athletic scholarships. Stevenson was able to overcome his own struggles in the classroom to have major academic success throughout his life.

He received the Presidential Scholarship as he graduated from Huffman High School in Birmingham and graduated Magna Cum Laude as an undergraduate and a master's degree in math education. Stevenson is also a published poet and author, publishing his first book, "Inspirations In Life: Inspired by Faith, Family, Friends and Football."

He joined the Tennessee football program in March of 2019 as director of player development.

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## Registration is now open for June 21 AL Seafood Cook-Off in G.S. Lodge at Gulf State Park will host celebration of local seafood

Chef team registration is open for 6th Annual Alabama Seafood Cook-Off set for Monday, June 21 at The Lodge at Gulf State Park in Gulf Shores. All interested

chef teams can visit EatAlabamaSeafood.com for registration forms and additional competition info. The 2020 competition was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“This is historically an evening celebrating the best of Alabama cuisine from some of the best chefs in the state, and we welcome all interested participants.”

“I urge all Alabama chefs to help us make this our best year yet in honor of lost time celebrating an event that has become a highlight of the state’s culinary calendar,” said Chef Jim Smith, chairman of the Alabama Seafood Marketing Commission and past winner.

Located at a unique location situated along Alabama’s Gulf Coast, the venue’s beachfront views, open terrace and spacious, indoor ballroom, will provide a stunning and cuisine-appropriate backdrop for the competition.

Recipes entered must integrate Alabama

Gulf Seafood as the featured ingredient and must be submitted to Chandler Thornton at chandler@bigcom.com by Wednesday, May 12. Finalists will be selected by May 20.

Chef teams (one lead chef plus one assistant) will be judged based on Presentation, General Impression and Serving Methods; Creativity; Composition and Harmony of Ingredients; Correct Preparation and Craftsmanship; and Flavor, Taste and Texture.

The winner will represent Alabama in the 17th Annual Great American Seafood Cook-Off in New Orleans this August.

“This is historically an evening celebrating the best of Alabama cuisine from some of the best chefs in the state, and we welcome all interested participants to enter for their chance to battle for this coveted title in June,” said Chris Blankenship, commissioner of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and program administrator of ASMC.

The ASMC was created in 2011 to help provide advice, oversight, management and encouragement to the marketing of Alabama seafood. It is comprised of volunteer members appointed by the Governor that include fishermen, processors, charter boat operators, retailers, restaurant owners and others related to the Alabama seafood industry.

### Past AL Seafood Cook-Off Winners

- **2015: Chef George Reis**, owner of Ocean restaurant in Birmingham, won the first-ever Alabama Seafood Cook-off. He won it with a dish made up of cumin coriander crusted grouper, Alabama shrimp sausage, English pea hummus, Sand Mountain tomato jam, pickled carrots and radishes and preserved lemon oil.
- **2016: Josh Quick**, the executive chef at Odette restaurant in Florence, Ala., and sous chef Gino Jacobsen, held their winning entry in the 2016 Alabama Seafood Cook-Off, which was held May 25 at The Wharf in Orange Beach, Ala. Quick won with a recipe that was built around fresh Alabama red snapper.
- **2017: Chef Brad Gilstrap (for Chef Brody Olive)**, who was out of town due to a death in the family) represented Voyager’s Restaurant at Perdido Beach Resort impressed the judges with Chef Olive’s “Fruitti di Alabama” recipe, which features three Alabama Gulf Seafood components: Pan Roasted Gulf Jolt Head Porgy, Summer Squash Jumbo Lump Crab Caponata, Topped with Crispy Rock Shrimp Piccata.
- **2018: Jeremy Downey**, chef at Bistro V in Vestavia Hills, won the Alabama Seafood Cook-Off this week in Bayou La Batre. Downey aced Wednesday’s competition by preparing a creative grouper dish -- specifically, cast iron grouper with Royal Red mezal ceviche, Benton’s bacon, sweet onion, chayote squash and lump crab stuffed with squash blossoms, tempura style with salsa verde.
- **2019: Chef Ramon Jacobsen**, right, of Odette in Florence, Alabama, took home the top prize on May 1, 2019, at the Alabama Seafood Cook-Off in Bayou La Batre. His sous chef was Josh Quick. The winning dish was gulf snapper escabeche and Kalamata olive causa.



### Past winner Chef Brody Olive of PBR named State Restaurateur of the Year

Perdido Beach Resort Executive Chef Chef Brody Olive created the winning recipe (see sidebar) in the 2017 Alabama Seafood Cook-Off. A Johnson and Wales grad, Brody began his career under George



Reis at Ocean in Birmingham. He moved to Pleasure Island to open Villaggio Grille where, as executive chef and general manager, he conceptualized a menu offering new and old world cookery with Italian, Mediterranean, and low country fusion. He opened Elli Bistro Zen Restaurant in Orange Beach before moving to The Beach Club in Fort Morgan, where he served as Executive Chef.

Brody won the Southern Breeze Gulf Coast Cook-Off in 2008 and The National Shrimp Festival Chef Challenge in 2009 and 2013. He also won the Wine Spectator Award in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2015, and 2016. In 2014, he took home three awards at Wharf Uncorked, including grand tasting winner. His many other accolades include being named the Alabama Restaurant & Hospitality Association Chef of the Year.

In addition to only serving the highest quality of locally sourced Gulf seafood, he serves a tantalizing selection of aged Prime beef products to PBR’s Voyagers menu that he sears at a temperature of 1,800 degrees to lock in the meat’s flavor and juiciness. He is passionate about using fresh ingredients, prepared simply and beautifully so that the flavors of the food are allowed to shine.

**Pictured:** The ARHA presented its Restaurateur of the Year award in November to PBR Executive Chef Brody Olive for Voyager’s, of the resort’s three dining establishments at PBR. Brittany Tibbitts (above left) of PBR was named the front of the house hospitality employee of the year by the ARHA.

- Shores; (new members welcome).
- **Ninja:** 6; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.
- **Lefty Collins:** 5; Lucy Buffett’s Lulu’s; Gulf Shores.
- **Chase Brown:** 5; Woodside Restaurant at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- **Brandon Blackburn:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Orange Beach.
- **Late Night DJs:** 9; The Club at Live Bait; Orange Beach.
- **Shazam:** 9; The Sandshaker at the Wharf, Orange Beach.
- **Charlie & The Hammerheads:** 5; Live Bait; Orange Beach.
- **John Brust:** 6; Ms. Nancy’s Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- **Kelly Poole:** 5; Carver’s Steak House; Orange Beach.
- **Soul Food Junkies:** 5; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke on the Tiki Deck:** 7 til; Live Bait; Orange Beach.
- **Karaoke w. Kelly Ann:** 6; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- **Karaoke:** 8; Snapper’s; Orange Beach.
- **Crosstown:** 7; Hub Stacy’s Innerarity Point.
- **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis:** 7:15 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center; corner of West 19th Ave. and West 2nd St.
- **Bingo:** 5:30; Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5659; Elberta.

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## NAS Museum, Blue Angels practices could soon be open to public

A system that would allow the general public back through the gates of NAS Pensacola and with it access to the National Naval Aviation Museum and Blue Angels practices is in its early stages, according to a recent report in the Pensacola News Journal. Retired Rear Adm. Kyle Cozad, president and CEO of the Naval Aviation Museum Foundation, said museum staff hopes to create a reservation system in which members of the public can undergo a security screening to get access to the museum and other historic attractions on the base. Since the 2019 terrorist attack at NAS Pensacola, access to the base has been limited to holders of Department of Defense ID cards and up to 10 of their guests. The museum also was closed for 10 months during the pandemic.

The museum, which receives about \$100,000 a year from Escambia County's tourist development fund, went from 724,000 visitors in 2019 to 50,000 visitors last year. The museum currently has 38 employees working, down from 156 employees in 2019.

"The central reservation system would require visitors to do a pre-security screening, and then they would get confirmation from us. And then they would get clearance to come on to the base for an allotted amount of time on a specific day," museum spokeswoman Malerie Cates told PNJ.

Cates, a spokeswoman for the museum, told the News Journal that discussions about a reservation system are still in the early stages, and no final decision has been made on whether a reservation system will be set up for the public.

Cozad said the museum is working to find funding for a dedicated express road from the front gate at NAS Pensacola directly to Barrancas National Cemetery and the National Naval Aviation Museum, while keeping the rest of the base secure.

• **Alcoholics Anonymous:** noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center; 13660 Innerarity Pt. Rd.; 850-492-3056 or 492-6362.

### SAT, APRIL 24

• **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** Schedule on Page 28; Perdido Key.

• **Historic Downtown Foley Walking Tours:** 10 a.m.; free; FoleyWelcome Center.

• **Bama Beach Cruzin':** The Wharf; Orange Beach.

• **The Favorites Band:** 7; Alabama Music Hall; Foley.

• **Tyler Brown:** 5; Woodside Restaurant at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.

• **John Brust:** 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.

• **Hart Strings:** 5:30; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.

• **Chase Wesley Brown:** 1; Tacky Jacks, Fort Morgan.

• **Adam Holt:** 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's; Gulf Shores.

• **Southern Star:** 6:30; American Legion Post 99; Foley.

• **Augie Savage & Darrell Roberts:** 8; Stephi Cocktails-Cuisine; Orange Beach.

• **Destiny Brown:** 5; Perch Restaurant at

The Lodge at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.

• **JJ Mack:** 6; Tacky Jacks; Orange Beach.

• **Brittany Grimes:** 11 a.m.; Tacky Jacks; Orange Beach.

• **Kim Carson:** 5; Angry Crab; Orange Beach.

• **Lauren Murphy:** 5; Carver's Steak House; Orange Beach.

• **Charlie & The Hammerheads:** 5; Live Bait; Orange Beach.

• **Crawfish (11 a.m.) & Karaoke (noon):** Tacky Jacks; Gulf Shores.

• **Reatha Pitman:** 5; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.

• **Lynn Drury:** 3; The Sandshaker at the Wharf, Orange Beach.

• **Shake Up Luau W. Shazam:** 9; The Sandshaker at the Wharf, Orange Beach.

• **Karaoke & Dance on The Deck:** 7; Live Bait; Orange Beach.

• **Late Night DJs:** 9; The Club at Live Bait; Orange Beach.

• **The Defrosters:** 2; Flying Harpoon II; Orange Beach.

• **Karaoke:** 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.

• **Karaoke w. Howard:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.

• **Scenic Heights:** 7; Hub Stacy's Innerarity Point.

• **Legends Band:** 6; Alabama Gulf Coast Music Hall; Foley.

• **Texas Hold 'em:** 7; The Office, Foley.

• **Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermen's Market:** 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.; 20733 Mifflin Rd. (County Rd. 20), Foley.

• **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 Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

### SUN, APRIL 25

• **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** Schedule on Page 28; Perdido Key.

• **NEEDTOBREATHE w. Andrew Ripp:** 7; The Amphitheatre at The Wharf; Orange Beach.

• **Concert pre-party w. live music:** 3; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.

• **Greg Brown:** 4:30; Sassy Bass; Ft. Morgan.

• **Gypsy Pearl:** 4; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.



**ONO ISLAND FIRE STATION GROUNDBREAKING:** City of Orange Beach and fire rescue officials joined the Ono Island Fire Protection Authority for a recent groundbreaking ceremony for Ono Island Fire Station No. 4. The new 6,085-square-foot station will be built across the street from the existing station. Orange Beach and Ono Island have a fire protection and emergency services agreement in place since Ono is not in the city limits. Just last month, the new Fire Engine 4 was dedicated. As part of the agreement, the city purchased the new engine and equipment with Ono repaying the cost over 10 years. The agreement also includes the Ono Authority constructing a new station. Designed by McCollough Architecture, the station is scheduled to be complete in April 2022. It is designed for 175 mph wind speed and will include six bunk rooms, a private office, an emergency medical service room, two apparatus bays and storage space.

## GCAA Wild Things Zoo Art Fest May 22 at Little Zoo That Could

Art and wild things fit together perfectly as the Gulf Coast Arts Alliance joins the Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo for the Wild Things Zoo Art Fest, a day of artists, music, family fun and, of course, exotic animals on Saturday, May 22 beginning at 9 a.m. A maximum of 40 artists will be set up in different places throughout the zoo until 4 p.m. closing time. Those attending will have to pay only the normal admission to the zoo located at 20499 Oak Rd East in Gulf Shores.

## Mobile will move all of its airport operations downtown by 2024

The Federal Aviation Administration has approved a plan by the Mobile Airport Authority to move all passenger air service to a new international airport terminal located near downtown at Brookley Field, after an MAA sponsored study concluded that the Mobile Regional Airport in West Mobile loses 55 percent of its the market to neighboring airports. Relocating commercial airlines downtown would help recapture that business, according to the report. Construction has already started on the new terminal, parking garage, surface parking lots and tarmac expansion as part of the project's \$160 million first phase. The terminal is to open in early 2024. A total of \$403 million will be spent on construction at the new airport over the next 20 years.

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Membership Night 6 pm Members get first drink free (up to \$5 value)	Military Night 6 pm - til Free Admission to Military & Veterans with ID every day*	Good Times  Good Music	Service Industry Night 6 pm Hospitality Industry gets free admission, 1st drink free (up to \$5 value) & employee prices	Service Industry Night 6 pm Hospitality Industry gets free admission, 1st drink free (up to \$5 value) & employee prices	Service Industry Night 6 pm Hospitality Industry gets free admission, 1st drink free (up to \$5 value) & employee prices	Wacky Women Night 6-9 pm First Drink Free (up to \$5 value) for the Ladies
<b>22</b> <b>Main Room</b> 2:00 J Hawkins Duo 6:00 Mark Sherrill & Friends 10:15 Jonboy Storey <b>Deck Stage</b> 1:00 Bruce Smelley 5:30 The Steve & Joe Piano Show 10:00 Jenna McClelland Band <b>Tent Stage</b> 1:00-4:00 Bingo 6:00 Mario Mena Duo 10:30 Summer 97 <b>Yacht Club</b> 5:00 Trevor Finlay <b>Ole River Grill</b> 8:00 Jessie Wilson & Davis Nix	<b>23</b> <b>Main Room</b> 12:00 Lea Anne Creswell Duo 4:00 Trevor Finlay 7:00 Scott Koehn Project 10:15 Ryan Dyer Duo <b>Deck Stage</b> 11:00 Justin Jeansonne Duo 1:00 Mario Mena Band 5:30 Big Earl Show 10:00 Bruce Smelley Band <b>Tent Stage</b> 11:00 Jesse Duncan Trio 2:00 Jenna McClelland Band 6:00 Red Clay Strays 10:30 Summer 97 <b>Yacht Club</b> 6:00 Mike Diamond <b>Ole River Grill</b> 4:00 Jeff Dayton 8:00 Jonboy Storey	<b>24</b> <b>Main Room</b> 12:00 J Hawkins Duo 4:00 Kyle Wilson 7:00 Jonboy Storey 10:15 Ricky Young <b>Deck Stage</b> 11:00 Saucy FuzZ 1:00 Johnny Hayes & the LoveSeats 5:30 Big Earl Show 10:00 Spencer Maige & the Reckless <b>Tent Stage</b> 11:00 Smokey Otis Trio 2:00 Knappy Ass Friends 6:00 Dew Pendelton 10:30 Yeah, Probably <b>Yacht Club</b> 12:00 Trevor Finlay 5:00 Jessie Wilson <b>Ole River Grill</b> 4:00 Jesse Duncan 8:00 Patrick Cross	<b>25</b> <b>Main Room</b> 1:30 Perdido Brothers 6:00 Mike Diamond 10:15 Mario Mena <b>Deck Stage</b> 11:00 Brian Hill Duo 1:00 Jessie Wilson & Davis Nix 5:30 Skyline Kings 10:00 Johnny Hayes & the LoveSeats <b>Tent Stage</b> 11:00 Al & Cathy 2:00 Lucky Doggs <b>Yacht Club</b> 12:00 Spencer Maige 5:00 Jeff Dayton <b>Ole River Grill</b> 2:00 Alexa Burroughs	<b>26</b> <b>Main Room</b> 2:00 Mike Diamond 6:00 Open Mic with Cathy Pace 10:15 Petty & Pace <b>Deck Stage</b> 5:30 Ricky Young 10:00 Bruce Smelley <b>Tent Stage</b> 1:00-4:00 Bingo	<b>27</b> <b>Main Stage</b> 2:00 T-Bone Montgomery 6:00 Perdido Brothers 10:15 Willie Traywick <b>Deck Stage</b> 5:30 Brandon Blackburn 10:00 Jesse Duncan <b>Tent Stage</b> 1:00-4:00 Bingo	<b>28</b> <b>Main Room</b> 2:00 Neil Dover 6:00 Rhonda Hart & Justin Fobes 10:15 Tim Roberts <b>Deck Stage</b> 5:30 Brent Varner 10:00 Tony Ray Thompson Trio
<b>29</b> <b>Main Room</b> 11:00 J Hawkins Duo 3:00 Big Earl (Jack Robertson) 6:00 Mark Sherrill & Friends 10:15 Ricky Young <b>Deck Stage</b> 5:30 Steve & Joe Piano Show 10:00 Blane Rudd Band <b>Tent Stage</b> 1:00-4:00 Bingo <b>Yacht Club</b> 5:00 Tony Ray Thompson <b>Ole River Grill</b> 8:00 Skyelor Anderson	<b>30</b> <b>Main Room</b> 12:00 Lea Anne Creswell Duo 4:00 Johnny Barbato 7:00 Scott Koehn Project 10:15 Skyelor Anderson <b>Deck Stage</b> 1:30 Bat 5:30 Justin Johnson Trio 10:00 Johnny Hayes Band <b>Tent Stage</b> 1:00-4:00 Bingo 6:00 Jesse Duncan Trio 10:30 Blane Rudd Band <b>Beach Stage</b> 12:00 Dan Smalley 4:00 Adam Tyler Brown <b>Yacht Club</b> 8:00 Jonathan Puzan <b>Ole River Grill</b> 4:00 Shelby Brown Duo 8:00 Chris Beverly	<b>1</b> <b>Main Room</b> 12:00 J Hawkins Duo 4:00 Dan Smalley 7:00 Skyelor Anderson 10:15 Brian Hill Duo <b>Deck Stage</b> 1:00 Ricky Young 5:30 Smokey Otis Trio 10:00 Bruce Smelley Band <b>Tent Stage</b> 2:00 Al & Cathy 6:00 Everyday People Band 10:30 Yeah, Probably <b>Beach Stage</b> 12:00 Justin Johnson Trio 4:00 Brent Varner <b>Yacht Club</b> 12:00 Justin Jeansonne Duo 5:00 Brandon Blackburn <b>Ole River Grill</b> 4:00 Brooks Johnson 8:00 Ryan Balthrop	<b>2</b> <b>Main Room</b> 1:30 Perdido Brothers 6:00 Mark Sherrill & Friends 10:15 Bruce Smelley <b>Deck Stage</b> 1:00 Mike Diamond 5:30 Brent Varner 10:00 Brian Hill Band <b>Tent Stage</b> 9:00 & 11:00 Church 2:00 David Dunavent <b>Beach Stage</b> 12:00 Patrick Cross <b>Yacht Club</b> 12:00 Chris Beverly 5:00 Jon Puzan <b>Ole River Grill</b> 2:00 Justin Johnson Trio	<b>3</b> <b>Main Room</b> 2:00 Brent Varner Trio 6:00 Open Mic with Cathy Pace 10:15 Petty & Pace <b>Deck Stage</b> 5:30 Christina Christian 10:00 Justin Johnson Trio <b>Tent Stage</b> 1:00-4:00 Bingo <b>Beach Stage</b> 12:00 Anthony Oliver	<b>4</b> <b>Main Room</b> 2:00 T-Bone Montgomery 6:00 Perdido Brothers 10:15 Justin Johnson Trio <b>Deck Stage</b> 5:30 Mason Henderson 10:00 Patrick Cross Trio <b>Tent Stage</b> 1:00-4:00 Bingo <b>Beach Stage</b> 12:00 David Dunavent	<b>5</b> <b>Main Room</b> 2:00 Neil Dover 6:00 Rhonda Hart & Justin Fobes 10:15 Johnny Hayes <b>Deck Stage</b> 5:30 Clay Barker 10:00 Justin Jeansonne Trio <b>Tent Stage</b> 1:00-4:00 Bingo <b>Beach Stage</b> 12:00 Alexa Burroughs

\*Except for some special events.

**Schedule Subject to Change**

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### WHAT IS A MULLET TOSS?

A Mullet Toss consists of individuals on the beach throwing a mullet, from a 10-foot circle in Florida across the state line into Alabama. Not to mention a great excuse to throw a weekend long party, with lots of fun activities, great music and food! A contribution for each fish flung will go to Local Youth Charities, including local school education and prevention program from the Community Drug & Alcohol Council, Inc. (CDAC) which offers programs, community support and collaboration to address drug and alcohol abuse, tobacco, mental health issues and violence — both in the home and on our streets.

### WHAT ARE THE RULES FOR TOSSING A MULLET?

Toss one whole mullet (approximately 1 lb.) across the Florida/ Alabama state line from a 10' circle down a designated alley.

\$15.00 Entry Fee and receive our Interstate Mullet Toss T-Shirt. Submit registration form at the beach.

If your category is not marked, you will not be eligible for the finals.

NO gloves or sand on mullet allowed. Mullet will be picked out of the water bucket.

After you throw, retrieve your mullet and toss it back into the bucket. - THANK YOU!

No stepping out of circle during your throw and follow through or you will be disqualified.

Throwing your mullet out of bounds is an automatic disqualification.

DON'T MISS! One chance only to qualify for finals.

Four finalists in men's and women's divisions each day.

## Schedule of Events

### Friday

### Saturday

### Sunday

9:00 Gates & T-Shirt Booths Open

9:00 Gates & T-Shirt Booths Open

9:00 Gates & T-Shirt Booths Open

10:00 Oyster Bar Opens

10:00 Oyster Bar Opens

10:00 Oyster Bar Opens

10:00 Children's Toss (16 and under) Begins

10:00 Children's Toss (16 and under) Begins

10:00 Children's Toss (16 and under) Begins

11:00 Music Starts

11:00 Music Starts

11:00 Music Starts

Noon Adult Toss Begins

Noon Adult Toss Begins

Noon Adult Toss Begins

1:00 Hot Body Contest (Tent)

1:00 Hot Body Contest (Tent)

2:00 Children's Toss Awards

2:00 Children's Toss Awards

2:00 Children's Toss Awards

4:00 Celebrity/Owner Toss

3:00 Miss Mullet Toss Bikini Contest (Tent)

3:00 Miss Mullet Toss Bikini Contest (Tent)

4:30 Adults Toss Awards

4:00 Celebrity/Owner Toss

4:00 Celebrity/Owner Toss

4:30 Adult Toss Awards

4:30 Adult Toss Awards

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## Matt Simpson sponsored bill will establish mental health court in Baldwin

A bill sponsored by Rep. Matt Simpson of Daphne creating a mental health court for Baldwin County has passed the Alabama House and Senate and has been signed into law by Gov. Kay Ivey.

"What it is, is a diversion program. If someone is suffering from mental health problems or diagnosed with mental health problems, this gives them access to treatment instead of putting them where they have to serve time in jail, have to go through the downward spiral that is the criminal justice system," said Simpson.

Simpson said the ten current mental health courts in the state are all north of Montgomery. He says if people follow the program, they avoid criminal conviction.

"This is for small crimes, public intoxication, theft of property, nothing violent, where we catch them before they become violent criminals," said Simpson.

The bill creates a funding mechanism for the new court and would operate much like the drug and veterans courts already established in Baldwin County. Mental illness in the county jail has created several problems and is also a safety concern for both inmates and corrections officers, according to local officials. The district attorney's office, judges and mental health officials to help bring the program to life and run it.

"How this mental health court will be set up and run, I wanted to leave that to our judges and our district attorney so that they could design and implement a program that works best for Baldwin County," Simpson said. "They're the experts in this. I just wanted to find a way to try to help pay for something we know is vitally needed here."



## Post 99 hosts April 25 fundraiser to send pool team to Nationals

On Sunday, April 25, American Legion Post 99 in Foley will host a pulled pork plate fundraiser to help with travel expenses for the Post's APA (pictured) women's pool league championship team for its trip to the APA Nationals in Las Vegas. The plate also includes two sides, a roll and dessert for \$10. Food service begins at 11 a.m. and take-out is available. Call 251-943-3114 for pick-up orders. The event also includes a 50-50 raffle and bake sale. Post 99 is located at 2101 S McKenzie St.

- **Chase Brown:** 5; Woodside Restaurant at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- **Les Linton:** 6; Tacky Jacks; Orange Beach.
- **Destiny Brown:** 7; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Hippie Jim & Crawfish Boil:** 11 a.m.; Tacky Jacks; Orange Beach.
- **Lisa Christian:** 2; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
- **Adam Tyler Brown:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Fort Morgan.
- **The Defrosters:** 2; Flying Harpoon II; Orange Beach.
- **Lisa Zanghi:** 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- **Glow Yoga Bend & Brews:** 11 a.m.; community yoga; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.
- **League Pool:** 7; The Office, Foley.
- **Danny Grady:** 2; Fraternal Order of Eagles; Foley.
- **John Joiner & Friends:** 4; Hub Stacey's at the Point; Innerarity Point.

- **9 Ball APA:** 6; The Office, Foley.

## MON, APRIL 26

- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** Schedule on Page 28; Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Family Friendly 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).
- **Jesse Duncan:** 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Lee Yankie:** 5; Woodside Restaurant at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Open Mic w/Davo:** 7; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Sandy Key Records Songwriters Night:** 6; Purple Parrot Tiki Bar; Perdido Key.
- **Bingo:** 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.

- **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis:** 7:15 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center; corner of West 19th Ave. and West 2nd St.
- **League Pool:** 7; The Office, Foley.
- **Overeaters Anonymous:** 6; Holy Spirit Episcopal Church; Gulf Shores, 616 Ft. Morgan Rd.; 251-709-5907.
- **Celebrate Recovery:** (Christ centered 12 step program); Monday evenings at 6 p.m.; Christian Life Church in Orange Beach; 251-967-4840.
- **T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly):** weigh-in 5:30; meeting 6; First Presbyterian Church of Foley; (Berry & Highway 59).
- **Alcoholics Anonymous:** noon; Perdido Bay UMC Activities Center; 13660 Innerarity Pt. Rd.; 850-492-3056 or 492-6362.
- **Alcoholics Anonymous and Alanon:** Holy Spirit Episcopal Church in Gulf Shores at noon; Alanon at Orange Beach Presbyterian Church in Orange Beach at 7 p.m.; 800-477-1104.



## OBFD reintroduces File of Life EMT health history file program

Now that Covid restrictions have eased up, the Orange Beach Fire Dept. has reintroduced the File of Life Program. The file contains pertinent information about your health history, such as contact information, medical history and prescriptions. Participants are asked to place the file on their refrigerator. If there is an emergency, medics can access the important information and make proper assessments before treatments. The files are available at OBFD Administration office. Call 251-981-6166 for more info. **Pictured:** OBFD Craig Stephenson, retired fire marshal, with participant Lionel Epps.



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

## TUE, APRIL 27

- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** Schedule on Page 28; Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Family Friendly 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).
- **Charlie Wilson:** 5; Woodside Restaurant at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- **Chris Beverly Experience:** 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **JW Karaoke:** 6; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- **Bingo:** 5; 45 Restaurant & Bar; One Club, Gulf Shores.
- **Bingo:** 10-2; Gulf Coast Elks Lodge; Foley.
- **Pool Tourney:** 7; Snapper's; Orange Beach.
- **Karaoke w. Kelly:** 8; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Texas Hold 'em:** 7; The Office, Foley.
- **Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermans Market:** 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.; 20733 Mifflin Rd. (County Rd. 20), Foley.
- **South Baldwin Republican Women:** Gift Horse Rest., 11:30 a.m.; 4th Tuesday of Every Month, public invited, Info: 251-978-6178.
- **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 Lions Club:** noon; Wolf Bay Lodge, Foley.
- **Foley Kiwanis Club:** noon; Vallarta's, 1145 S. McKenzie St., Foley; 859-771-6091.
- **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, APRIL 28

- **Murder at Mama's Dinner Theatre:** dinner at 6; show at 6:45; Luna's Eat & Drink, lunaseatanddrink.com; Orange Beach.
- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** Schedule on Page 28;

- Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Family Friendly 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).
- **Charlie Wilson:** 5; Woodside Restaurant at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- **Lisa Zanghi:** 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- **Anthony Oliver:** 5; Live Bait; Orange Beach.
- **Jay Megginson:** 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's; Gulf Shores.
- **Delta Donnie:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Fort Morgan.
- **Open Mic:** 5; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
- **Jenna McClelland:** 6; Stephi Cocktails-Cuisine; Orange Beach.
- **Mason Henderson's Saucy Fuzz:** 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- **Gary Story & Friends:** 8; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Scott Koehn Project:** 6; ONE; Orange Beach.
- **Karaoke:** 7; Bar 45 at OSO CLUB, Gulf Shores.
- **John Joiner & Darrel Roberts:** 6; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **BBRC Running Club:** 5:30 p.m.; Big Beach Brewery in Gulf Shores.
- **Tim Richardson:** 5; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- **Karaoke & League Pool:** 7:30; The Office, Foley.
- **Bingo:** 10 a.m.; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis:** 7:15 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis 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.



## Bama Coast Cruise set for April 23-24

Bama Coast Cruise returns to Orange Beach April 25 & 26! This car show is immensely popular with local residents, tourists and all car enthusiasts. The event showcases the absolute finest in automotive customized, modified and restored vehicles. Over 800 vehicles are expected to be at The Wharf in Orange Beach, for the most unique automotive event the Alabama Gulf Coast has ever seen.

Bama Coast Cruisin' will set up on Thursday, April 21, and the show will be open to the public Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will wrap up the festivities with a police escorted parade of show cars leaving The Wharf and traveling east on Canal, south on 161 and then east on Perdido Beach Blvd. to the Perdido Pass Bridge and back to The Wharf. Don't miss your chance to view the most amazing vehicles ever seen on the Alabama gulf coast!

Bama Coast Cruise is an "open show" and welcomes all makes and models of specialty vehicles, customs, classics, street rods and hot rods, plus antique and original vehicles.

In addition to over 800 vehicles, there will be food trucks, vendors, music and plenty of Family Fun for everyone. For more info, go to Bama-CoastCruisin'.com.

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### Final free Concert at Meyer is April 22

Funk You, a nine-piece musical juggernaut from Augusta, GA, will provide the tunes during the final concert of the City of Gulf Shores Music at Meyer Park Series on April 22 at 6 p.m. Meyer Park is located at 400 E. 22nd Ave. In the event of rain, the back-up location will be at the Big Beach Brewery. Admission to the family friendly concert is free. For more info, call 251-968-1171.

### Friends of the Arts Grand Event April 29

Friends of the Arts Inc. will hold The Grand Event, a fundraiser for local arts programs and scholarships, on Thursday, April 29 at the Coastal Arts Center of Orange Beach. The event will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. It will be a night of blackjack, music and dancing with Platinum Premier, delicious food from Cosmos, and an amazing silent auction. Tickets are \$75 and can be purchased through Eventbrite at eventbrite.com. Dress is black and white cocktail attire. Covid guidelines will be followed. For more information, visit friendsoftheartsinc.org.

### 49th Art in the Park May 8-9 in Foley

The 49th Annual Art in the Park will be held May 8-9 in John B. Foley Park, located at the intersection of Highways 59 and 98 in historic Downtown Foley. Hours are 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. on Saturday and 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. on Sunday.

Sponsored by Foley Art Center and chaired this year by Linda Koniar and Kelly Crosby, Art in the Park is a competitive juried fine arts show. Around 60 artists showcase their talents while providing unique, hand crafted cultural experiences and shopping opportunities.

This is a free outdoor event in a beautiful setting. Bring your mother, or someone else's

mother, and stroll through the picturesque park as you enjoy the sites from one of Alabama's Top Ten Events for May. Discover one of a kind creations in mediums such as pen & ink, oil, watercolor, pottery, stained glass, wood, porcelain, fused glass, hand woven textiles, jewelry and children's clothing.

The littlest members of the family can enjoy the free, hands-on children's area offering a variety of fun artistic activities and face painting.

Another fest highlight is the local children's art exhibit featuring work from students from elementary to high school.

Since 1966, the Foley Art Center has served the Gulf Coast area with cultural enrichment programs in the local schools, grants to art teachers and art classes for children and adults. From the dreams of fifteen local citizens, it has become a vital force in the cultural development of Baldwin County. The FAC sponsors outstanding performances and special events in the Foley area to eleven schools with over 5,000 students. Its continued growth and progress has only been realized through the steadfast support of caring businesses and individuals over the past forty years.

For more info, visit foleyartcenter.com or call 251-943-4381.

### Sweet potato named official Alabama veggie

Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey has signed the bill naming the sweet potato as the official state vegetable. Alabama now has an official state vegetable: the sweet potato, with the Senate voting unanimously for the bill, and the House voting 84-4 for it. A project for a home school in the aptly named Harvest, located in the northwestern part of Madison County, led to the designation, according to the bill.

The official state fruit of Alabama is the blackberry. The official tree fruit is the peach. The official crustacean is the brown shrimp. The official amphibian is the Red Hills salamander.

- **Bread Ministry:** 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Orange Beach United Methodist Church Brook's Center.
- **Food Ministry For Hungry Families:** noon-1 p.m.; Grace Lutheran Church, corner of West 23rd Ave. and West 4th St. in Gulf Shores; 251-968-5991.
- **Gulf Shores Lions Club:** noon; 2nd & 4th Wednesday; noon; Tacky Jacks Gulf Shores; 251-968-2823.
- **AA:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

### THU, APRIL 29

- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** Schedule on Page 28; Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Family Friendly 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).
- **Charlie Wilson:** 5; Woodside Restaurant at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Lee Yankie:** 6; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.
- **Jason Trueman:** 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's; Gulf Shores.
- **John Brust:** 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- **Karaoke:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke w. Howard:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.
- **JJ Mack:** 6; Tacky Jacks; Orange Beach.
- **Bar Trivia Night:** 5; Bar 45 Lounge at ONE CLUB, Gulf Shores.
- **Tim Roberts:** 6; The Tin Top Restaurant, Bon Secour.
- **Karaoke w. Kelly:** 8; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Danny Grady:** 2; Fraternal Order of Eagles; Foley.
- **Karaoke:** 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- **Razor Hawk:** 6; Hub Stacy's Innerarity Point.
- **Bingo:** 5; open to all; Amvets Post 2018; 13085 Wisconsin St.; Elberta.
- **Texas Hold 'em:** 7; The Office, Foley.
- **Fairhope Outdoor Farmers Market:** 3-6 p.m.; behind Fairhope Public Library.
- **Texas Hold 'em:** 7; The Office, Foley.
- **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, APRIL 30

- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** Schedule on Page 28; Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Family Friendly 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).
- **Red & The Revelers:** 6:30; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.
- **Delta Donnie:** 7; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Tyler Ward:** 5; Gulf Shores Restaurant at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- **JERI:** 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's; Gulf Shores.
- **John Brust:** 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- **Top Hat & Jackie:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
- **Austin Thompson:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Fort Morgan.
- **Marty McIntosh:** 5; Tacky Jacks; Orange Beach.
- **Lauren Murphy:** 5; Angry Crab; Orange Beach.
- **Ted Hefco:** 5; Carver's Steak House; Orange Beach.
- **Doc Johnson Band:** 9; The Sandshaker at the Wharf, Orange Beach.
- **Karaoke on the Tiki Deck:** 7 'til; Live Bait; Orange Beach.
- **Karaoke w. Kelly Ann:** 6; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- **Karaoke:** 8; Snapper's; Orange Beach.
- **Kristi Dees Bad Juju:** 7; Hub Stacy's Innerarity Point.
- **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis:** 7:15 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center; corner of West 19th Ave. and West 2nd St.
- **AA:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

### SAT, MAY 1

- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible**



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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## SummerTide Theatre returns to SBCT beginning June 4

Summertide, the University of Alabama's professional summer theatre, returns to Gulf Shores for its eighteenth season to present *Starting Here, Starting Now* at South Baldwin Theatre from June 4 to July 2. Tickets will be currently available at [SummerTide.org](http://SummerTide.org) or by calling the SBCTnbox office after May 25 at 251-968-6721.

"We are excited for SummerTide Theatre to return to Gulf Shores with Maltby and Shire's *Starting Here, Starting Now* after last year's hiatus," said director Matt Davis, assistant professor at The University of Alabama Department of Theatre and Dance.

After celebrating its sixteenth anniversary in 2019 with *Forever Plaid*, Summertide took a COVID hiatus in 2020. Since 2004, SummerTide has brought shows such as *Ring of Fire*, *The Marvelous Wonderettes*, and *Pump Boys and Dinettes* to entertain audiences in Gulf Shores and the surrounding areas. With Music by David Shire and Lyrics by

Richard Maltby, Jr., each song tells a story of modern romance or finding oneself. The audience is taken on a tour of love, heart-break and self-discovery with subjects ranging from loneliness and love triangles to anticipation and adventure.



"This is a great show for today, as it explores the excitement of young love and the importance of human interaction. This bold journey takes the young cast through all the highs and lows of relationships in a very candid and personal way," the director

said. "Maltby and Shire's songs tell perfectly crafted stories. They're unique, exciting, filled with interesting characters, and they really showcase the versatility and talent of our performers. We look forward to sharing these songs." For the past 40 years, UA Theatre and Dance has produced student and faculty-directed, performed and designed work and cultivated the next generation of performing arts professionals through comprehensive programs. Info: [theatre.ua.edu](http://theatre.ua.edu).

- Probables:** Schedule on Page 28; Perdido Key.
- **Karaoke on the Tiki Deck:** 7 'til; Live Bait; Orange Beach.
  - **Morgan Tyler:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
  - **Tim Roberts:** 7; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
  - **Mel Knapp:** 5; Woodside Rest. at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
  - **Destiny Brown:** 5; Perch Restaurant at The Lodge at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
  - **Rebecca Barry & Gerry Gambino:** 3; The Sandshaker at the Wharf, Orange Beach.
  - **Doc Johnson Band:** 9; The Sandshaker at the Wharf, Orange Beach.
  - **Charlie & The Hammerheads:** 5; Live Bait; Orange Beach.
  - **JJ Mack:** 6; Tacky Jacks; Orange Beach.
  - **Brittany Grimes:** 11 a.m.; Tacky Jacks; Orange Beach.
  - **The Defrosters:** 2; Flying Harpoon II; Orange Beach.
  - **Augie Savage & Darrell Roberts:** 8; Stephi Cocktails-Cuisine; Orange Beach.

- **Late Night DJ's:** 9; The Club at Live Bait; Orange Beach.
- **Chase Brown:** 1; Tacky Jacks, Fort Morgan.
- **Karaoke w. Howard:** 6; Tacky Jacks, Fort Morgan.
- **John Brust:** 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- **Karaoke:** 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- **Open Mic:** 7; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
- **Coastal Fire:** 7; Hub Stacy's Innerarity Point.
- **Texas Hold 'em:** 7; The Office, Foley.
- **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

## Elliott's bill will help Baldwin schools get fair share of state funds

A bill introduced by Sen. Chris Elliott's to help Baldwin County school systems receive more appropriate funding for its two school systems was recently signed into law by Gov. Kay Ivey.

Baldwin County is the fastest growing county in the state over, according to data released by the US Census Bureau last summer. Fairhope, Foley, Gulf Shores and Daphne have all grown by at least 25 percent over the last 10 years.

This year, there are 6,474 students enrolled in Alabama schools across 59 different school districts that are not currently included in the Foundation Allocation program that funds Alabama's schools.

"This puts the onus on local school districts to make up for that funding deficit. But Elliott's bill will help all growing school systems across Alabama get their fair share of funding."

"Under current law, every system is using last year's numbers to fund this year's student population," Elliott said. "This puts our growing school systems at a huge disadvantage year after year, as we've got kids in these schools that have no state or federal funding available to cover their needs."

State Superintendent Eric Mackey said the Alabama State Department of Education is very supportive of the bill, especially since it will not adversely affect school districts that have shrinking numbers.

"Districts in our state that already have declining enrollment numbers have enough issues to deal with," Elliott said.

"They can continue to do what they can with what they've got."

Baldwin County Schools CFO John Wilson said the change brought about by Elliott's bill is a much-needed boost to growing school systems and will allow the addition of 25-30 classroom teachers to Baldwin County Schools, thereby reducing class sizes.

"Baldwin County spends millions each year in local funds to supplement what should be funded by the state, as a direct result of our rapid growth," Wilson said. "Baldwin County has grown by an average of 500 students per year over the last decade which creates substantial challenges under the existing model. Under Senator Elliott's bill, Baldwin County students will finally receive an equitable share of State Funding."

To avoid double counting students that were included in this year's units allocation, the bill will only fund 70 percent for the next fiscal year.

"This is a simple solution that makes sure each and every one of our children around the state are getting their fair share of education dollars," Elliott said. "Education is the silver bullet for so many of the issues we face today, so we have to do everything we can to make certain our children are getting their needs met."

# April is National Safe Digging Month



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# WHAT'S HAPPENING



Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

## SUN, MAY 2

- **Easter Brunch Buffet:** Foodcraft; The Lodge at Gulf State Park; (251) 923-2950.
- **Legends In Concert Las Vegas Show w. Cher, Lady Gaga, Sinatra & Elvis:** 3 p.m.; OWA, Foley.
- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** Schedule on Page 28; Perdido Key.
- **Chase Brown:** 5; Woodside Rest. at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- **Davo:** 4:30; Sassy Bass; Ft. Morgan.
- **Adam Tyler Brown:** 7; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Brandon Blackburn:** 5; Woodside Restaurant at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- **Tyler Wilson:** 4; Tacky Jacks, Fort Morgan.
- **Hippie Jim:** 11 a.m.; Tacky Jacks; Orange Beach.
- **Charlie Wilson:** 5; Tacky Jacks; Orange Beach.
- **Lisa Zanghi:** 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- **Lisa Christian:** 2; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
- **Glow Yoga Bend & Brews:** 11 a.m.; community yoga; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.
- **The Defrosters:** 2; Flying Harpoon II; Orange Beach.
- **John Joiner & Friends:** 4; Hub Stacy's; Innerarity Point.
- **Danny Grady:** 2; Fraternal Order of Eagles; Foley.
- **League Pool:** 7; The Office, Foley.
- **AA:** 5 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (In-

nerarity Point) Pensacola.

## MON, MAY 3

- **Monthly Community Potluck:** 6pm; Orange Beach Community Center (Sept. thru May).
- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** Schedule on Page 28; Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Family Friendly Bingo:** 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- **Lee Yankie:** 5; Woodside Rest. at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Open Mic w/Davo:** 5; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **Bingo:** 10-2; Gulf Coast Elks Lodge; Foley.
- **Bingo:** 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis:** 7:15 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center; corner of West 19th Ave. and West 2nd St.
- **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, MAY 4

- **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** Schedule on Page 28; Perdido Key.
- **Flora-Bama Family Friendly Bingo:** 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- **Ancient Aviators Military Gathering:** 8:30 a.m.; American Legion Post 44; 6781 Hwy. 59; Gulf Shores; visitors welcome; 251 990-8258
- **Bama Beach Pickleball Club:** 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
- **Austin Thompson:** 5; Woodside Rest. at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- **Chris Beverly Experience:** 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- **Bingo:** 5; 45 Restaurant & Bar; One Club, Gulf Shores.
- **Line Dancing:** 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- **Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde:** 8; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- **Karaoke w. Kelly:** 8; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- **JW Karaoke:** 6; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- **Bingo:** 10-2; Gulf Coast Elks Lodge; Foley.
- **Texas Hold'em:** 7; The Office, Foley.
- **Pool Tourney:** 7; Snapper's; Orange Beach.
- **Orange Beach City Council Meeting:** 5 p.m.; City Hall; 980-INFO.
- **Foley Kiwanis Club:** noon; Vallarta's, 1145 S. McKenzie St., Foley; 859-771-6091.
- **AA:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
- **AA:** 7 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

## Hail the size of baseballs leaves its dent on Orange Beach

Social media platforms will be filled with evidence of baseball sized hail falling in Orange Beach during an early morning storm on April 10. The storm also brought wind speeds up to 60 miles per hour and four to five inches of rain in less than two hours, but it was the hail, especially in Orange Beach, that caused the most damage. According to the National Weather Service this just the second time since 1950 that four inch hail has hit in South Alabama, leading to more insurance claims for hail damage to cars filed in one day than during all of 2020 across the entire state. State Farm Insurance tweeted that it has received more than 500 hail claims just on Saturday. "A lot of the damage is so significant that we believe some of the cars might be totaled," said Chris Pilcic, a spokesman for State Farm.

## Alabama gambling & lottery bill goes to House, could be on ballot in November of 2022

By Fran Thompson

The Alabama Senate passed a bill to allow a lottery, casino gambling and retail and online sports betting in the state, the first step in what will still be an uphill battle to allow gambling in state.

The bill now moves to the Alabama House of Representatives. If the House passes the proposed constitutional amendment, it will be on the November 2022 general election ballot. The House legislative session is scheduled to end May 30, and the bill must pass with a three-fifths super majority from the politically conservative legislature.

Sponsor Jim McClendon, a republican representing Springville, said he just wanted to sponsor a state lottery bill, but he did not have the support for such a bill.

"All (his original bill) did was give Alabamians an opportunity to have a vote if they wanted a lottery or not," McClendon said. "I couldn't get that bill passed. I didn't have the votes."

Proceeds from legalized gambling would be earmarked for public education, infrastructure improvements, broadband access and health and mental health services for rural areas.

Profits would also direct 5 percent of lottery revenues to a fund for education retirees, until the fund reaches \$100 million.

Profits would also allow the state to reduce the state sales tax on groceries from 4 to 2 percent, starting in 2023. If revenues from the lottery exceed \$297 million in any year after 2024, the grocery tax would be cut to 1 percent. If revenues exceed \$396 million, the state would phase out grocery taxes for that year. The bill would

also prevent local governments from raising grocery taxes.

The Poarch Band of Creek Indians, who own OWA in Foley, would be allowed to offer the full range of casino games at their resorts in Atmore, Montgomery, and Wetumpka. Currently, those resorts only offer electronic bingo.

"This historic vote is the first step to empower Alabamians who deserve to have their voice heard on this issue, and be allowed to vote on a Constitutional Amendment," said Stephanie A. Bryan, the Tribe's Chairwoman and CEO.

The bill, unless it is tweaked in the House, will allow Alabamians to vote to create a lottery, and authorize up to nine sites statewide to operate casino-style table games through licenses issued by the Alabama Gaming Commission through a competitive bidding process.

The current operators of greyhound racing tracks in Birmingham, Mobile, Greene County, Macon County, and Houston County would have the right to make a final bid exceeding the highest bidder. The bill will give the right to make the final bid for the casino in DeKalb or Jackson County to the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, who will negotiate a compact with the state to share a portion of their casino revenue.

The four states that border Alabama and a total of 45 states currently have lotteries. Alabama, Nevada, Utah, Hawaii and Alaska are the only states currently without a state lottery. Mississippi started selling lottery tickets in 2019.

A study commissioned by Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey issued a report in 2020 that found legalized gambling and

a lottery could generate up to \$700 million a year in revenue for the state (\$300 million from the lottery, \$400 million from casinos, \$10 million from sports betting).

The governor has long been on record as being in favor of letting voters decide if they want gambling to be allowed in the state.

Senator Del Marsh sponsored a similar gambling bill that the Senate narrowly defeated in March.

"Our people are driving across state lines to gamble and purchase lottery tickets, and those neighboring states are collecting the revenue and reaping the benefits straight from the pockets of Alabamians," Marsh said. "This is revenue that can be used to finance countless desperately needed projects for our state and improve the quality of life for those who live here."

Former Auburn football coach and current senator Tommy Tuberville has also supported voter's right to decide for themselves if legalized gambling should be allowed in the state.

The influential Alabama Citizens Action Program has strongly opposed gambling in any form. But gambling amendments in other traditionally conservative states such as Arkansas, South Dakota and Louisiana have overwhelmingly been approved through ballot measures in recent years.

Alabama voters rejected the lottery in a referendum back in 1999, even though its governor, Don Siegelman, was elected on a pro-lottery platform. Voters, about 50 percent of those registered, headed to the polls primarily to vote on the lottery.

It failed by 100,000 votes (54-46 percent), even though an election week poll by the pro-lottery Alabama Education Assn. indicated it would pass by the same margin that it failed.

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- 1 tsp orange liqueur
- 1 twist lemon

Pour all ingredients into a shaker filled with ice and shake. Strain into cocktail glass. Garnish with lemon.

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750ml Grand Marnier.....	\$31.98



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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## South Baldwin Democrats social May 2 at Graham Creek Pavilion

By Joan Hill

The South Baldwin Democratic Party will have a social get together on Sunday, March 2, 2021, beginning at 3:00 p.m. at the Graham Creek Pavilion, 23460 Wolf Bay Drive in Foley. Light snacks and drinks will be provided. This is an outdoor event, and we will be socially distancing.

We welcome all residents from Baldwin County, Commission District 4, which includes Fish River east to Perdido Bay and CR 32 south to the Gulf. Communities represented include Orange Beach, Gulf Shores, Fort Morgan, Bon Secour, Magnolia Springs, Foley, Elbert, Perdido Beach and Lillian.

We hope all those involved in the area Democratic Party, new to South Baldwin or interested in learning more about getting involved in local issues, specifically electing Democrats, should attend. For more information about the club, visit [baldwincountymocrats.org](http://baldwincountymocrats.org).

• **Al-Anon:** Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Activities Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

### WED, MAY 5

• **Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables:** Schedule on Page 28; Perdido Key.

• **Flora-Bama Family Friendly 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).

• **Mason Henderson's Saucy Fuzz:** 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.

• **Jerry Gambino:** 6; Tacky Jacks; Orange Beach.

• **Adam Tyler Brown:** 6; Tacky Jacks; Fort Morgan.

• **Open Mic:** 5:30; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.

• **Scott Koehn Project:** 6; OSO; Orange Beach.

• **Anthony Oliver:** 5; Live Bait; Orange Beach.

• **Lisa Zanghi:** 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.

• **Gary Story & Friends:** 7; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.

• **Jenna McClelland:** 6; Stephi Cocktails-Cuisine; Orange Beach.

• **Karaoke:** 7; Bar 45 at ONE CLUB, Gulf Shores.

• **John Joiner & Darrel Roberts:** 7; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.

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

• **BBRC Running Club:** 5:30 p.m.; Big Beach Brewery in Gulf Shores; [lafleet-feet.com](http://lafleet-feet.com).

• **Karaoke & League Pool:** 7:30; The Office, Foley.

• **Bingo:** 10 a.m.; American Legion Post 99; Foley.

• **Open Mixed Doubles Tennis:** 7:15 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center.

• **Food Ministry at Morgan's Chapel United Methodist Church:** 8-9 a.m.; 6325 Cty Rd 10, Bon Secour, (across from Swift School); 251-979-2005.

• **Prayer Shawl Ministry:** Noon; Perdido

Bay UMC Activities Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., Pensacola.

• **Food Ministry For Hungry Families:** noon-1 p.m.; Grace Lutheran Church in Gulf Shores; 251-968-5991.

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### 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

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Fried Catfish - corn meal battered.....	\$8.75
Boiled 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

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Served Daily 3:00pm-5:30pm

Served with your choice of two side dishes

*Includes Iced Tea*

<b>Coconut Shrimp</b> with spicy orange marmalade.....	<b>13.99</b>
<b>Stuffed Shrimp</b> .....	<b>13.99</b>
<i>bacon wrapped, stuffed with crabmeat dressing &amp; monterey jack cheese</i>	
<b>Fried Shrimp</b> tail-less.....	<b>10.99</b>
<b>Grilled Shrimp</b> over yellow rice.....	<b>11.99</b>
<b>Fried Oysters</b> with cocktail sauce.....	<b>16.99</b>
<b>Fried Seafood Platter</b> shrimp, oysters, flounder, crab claws.....	<b>16.99</b>
<b>Broiled Seafood Platter</b> shrimp, scallops, flounder almondine.....	<b>14.99</b>
<b>Fried Chicken Tenders</b> with honey-mustard.....	<b>8.99</b>
<b>Grilled Chicken Breast</b> with a light touch of lemon-herb oil.....	<b>8.99</b>
<b>Yellow-Fin Tuna</b> grilled or blackened.....	<b>12.99</b>
<b>Trigger</b> grilled, fried, blackened or broiled almondine.....	<b>12.99</b>
<b>Flounder</b> fried or broiled almondine.....	<b>10.99</b>
<b>Grouper</b> grilled, blackened, broiled almondine or fried.....	<b>12.99</b>

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**Wednesday** – Chicken-N-Dumplings

**Thursday** – Beef Tips over Rice

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THANKS MOM

# Funny Bones

By Ron "Bones" Jones



Student: "Professor Stigler, I don't believe I deserve this 'F' grade that you've given me!" Professor: "I agree, but unfortunately it is the lowest grade the University will allow me to award."

If you add coconut oil to your kale, it makes it easier to scrape it into the trash.

Two goats wandered into the

junkyard and had a field day. One of them spent a particularly long time bent over a spool of film. When he was finished, the other goat came over. "So, did you enjoy the film?" "To tell you the truth, I liked the book better."

I didn't make it to the gym today. That makes 1,523 days in a row!

I recently added squats to my workouts by moving the beer into the bottom shelf of the fridge.

Business idea: A home surgery kit called Suture Self.

This spaceship landed in front of me and out stepped a large cream bun. It was one of those extra cholesterol.

I needed a password eight characters long, so I chose Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.

A local Buddhist monk went to see his dentist but refused to see his dent was offered. He wanted to transcendental medication.

I saw an add for burial plots. I

thought to myself, "That's the last thing I need'.

If a man says something in the woods and there are no women around, is he still wrong?

Tim: I wish I had the money to buy an elephant.  
Tom: What do you want with an elephant?  
Tim: Nothing, I just want the money.

A guy walked into a bar and noticed they had a huge Silver Back Gorilla sitting at the end of the bar. He asked the bar-keep why they had a gorilla. "That's Joe-Joe, he's trained to give CPR if someone drinks too much," he replied. "So what'll you have there buddy?" "A Shirley Temple," the man replied.

Q: As people age, do they sleep more soundly?

A: Yes, but usually in the afternoon.

I was dismayed this afternoon when my wife told me my 6-year-old son wasn't actually mine.

She then said I need to pay more attention at school pick

up.

A squirrel was sitting in an apple tree. All of a sudden a cow started climbing up the tree. "What the heck are you doing here?" asked the squirrel.

The cow replied, "I thought I'd eat some oranges."

"But this is an apple tree."  
"I know. I brought my own."

A drunk walked through the door of the bar. He stood on the corner waiting for the light. He wife calls and asks if he is course not!"

She says, "Okay then, tell me where you are and I will come and get you."

The drunk replies, "I am at the corner of Walk and Don't Walk!"

At a job Interview:

"What are your strengths?"

"I take matters in my own hands."

"Okay, thank you. We will contact you."

"No, I will contact you."

The Zen of Sarcasm...

1. Do not walk behind me, for I may not lead. Do not walk ahead of me, for I may not follow. Do not walk beside me ei-

ther. Just pretty much leave me alone.

2. The journey of a thousand miles begins with a broken fan belt and leaky tire.

3. It's always darkest before dawn. So if you're going to steal your neighbor's newspaper, that's the time to do it.

4. Don't be irreplaceable. If you can't be replaced, you can't be promoted.

5. Always remember that you're unique. Just like everyone else.

6. Never test the depth of the water with both feet.

7. If you think nobody cares if you're alive, try missing a couple of car payments.

8. Before you criticize someone, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way, when you criticize them, you're a mile away and you have their shoes.

9. If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is probably not for you.

10. Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach him how to fish, and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day.

11. If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was a wise investment.

12. If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything.



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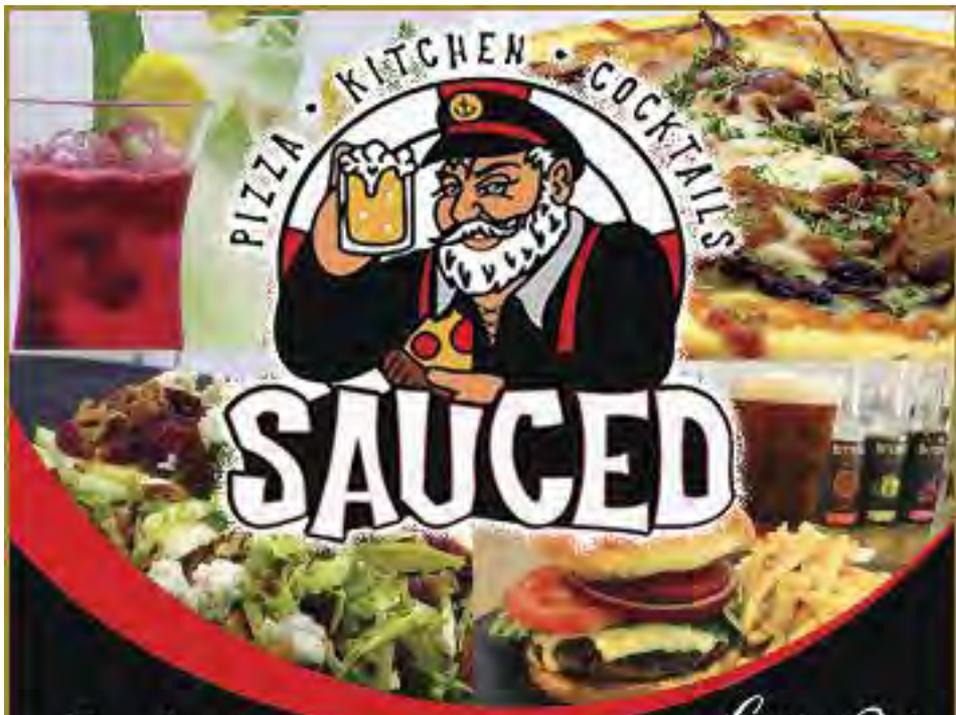
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# Foley angler will have to share pompano record

## Jason Mote of Foley's pompano beats record by 1.6 oz

By David Thornton

While most fishermen are practical enough to realize it is highly unlikely they will ever catch a record fish, anyone and everyone is entitled to land their personal best ("PB") fish of any species. Angling records are quite the hoo-ha for fishermen, but personal accomplishments can mean much more than even having one's name in a book.

Sunday April 18th, Jason Mote of Foley was enjoying a rather quiet afternoon fishing on the beaches of south Baldwin County when a tug on his line around 3:30 p.m. signaled another bite. His thoughts of it being just another pompano dinner were quickly derailed when this large specimen slid up on the sandy shoreline.

He quickly snapped some pictures to send to some fishing buddies, like Jim Foster, who encouraged him to have it weighed as soon as possible because it was so huge. Since Jason was entered in the 'Pomp Stomp' pompano fishing contest, he headed to Sam's in Orange Beach to have the fish weighed.

His arrival there caused quite a stir for veteran surf guides Chris Vecsey and Dusty Hayes, who quickly realized they were not only weighing a likely winner for the contest, but a potential Alabama state record fish as well. Their scale read 6.940 pounds (or 6 pounds 15 ounces).

The current Alabama record for Florida Pompano is 6 pounds 13 ounces (or 6.812 pounds) caught by Patricia Cluck from the Gulf State Park Pier April 28, 2010.

According to the rules for weighing a record fish in Al-

abama, two ounces would be the minimum to replace a current record weighing less than 25 pounds. But the problem was the scale at Sam's had not been certified in accordance with the rules. And it was too late on this Sunday afternoon to locate another certified scale to weigh Jason's pompano. He had no recourse, but to pack the fish in ice overnight, and hope it didn't lose too much weight. Of course, it is a well known fact that fish on ice do indeed lose some weight over time. The question was how much would this one lose?

On Monday, Jason took his pompano to the office of Alabama Marine Resources in Gulf Shores, where the weight was officially verified on a certified scale as 6 pounds 14.6 ounces. So, even though his pompano weighed more than the existing record (by 1.6 ounces), according to the rules it can only be considered a tie, not to replace the existing record. Everyone involved was understandably disappointed for Jason. But he hasn't let that technicality dampen the merit of his personal angling accomplishment.

Accolades have poured in, and this humble young man (pictured right) has been 'wowed' by all the attention. Of course he will almost certainly win some nice cash and prizes from the Pomp Stomp tournament which ends on May 8. So at least that will be compensated for not being noted in the record book. Congratulations to Jason Mote on the catch of a lifetime! And good luck to all anglers in pursuit of theirs.

According to outdooralabama.com, to replace a record for a fish weighing less than 25 pounds, the replacement must weigh at least 2 ounces more than the existing record. To replace a record for a fish weighing 25 pounds or more, the replacement fish must weigh at least one-half of 1 percent more than the existing record.



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## PICTURES OF THE WEEK



"This photo was taken on the Back Country Trail. The Pelican was feasting on small fish," writes Gary Lipely.



"I shot this from my balcony last night 3/11/2021; It was so heartwarming that I had to share," writes Linda Pacatte.



Perdido Key sunset tonight at SeaSpray condos submitted by Lisa McLain Lewallen of Hendersonville, Tennessee.



Among hundreds of Delta Spider Lilies and lotus blooms, John Henderson of Fairhope found this single Blue Flag Iris during recent kayak into the Tensaw Delta. "Amazing," John wrote.



Phillip Thomas: "West Beach critters."



Red sunrise East and West from David Kriegler.



Another beautiful Innerarity Point sunset from Cathy Deal.



Easter morning sunrise t the Flor-Bam Church from Mary Falkenberg.



From Steve Watson of Whitewater, Wisconsin



"Seizing the day on a foggy Saturday in Orange Beach," writes Pat Thorton.



David Gates shares a picture from the aptly named Sunset Grill.



Judy Kelly shares a picture of Richard, Judy, Caleb, Paul, and Suzi enjoying the white sand of Orange Beach and Perdido Key instead of the white snow in Minnesota.

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## Rosamond Johnson celebration May 1 at his namesake Perdido Key Beach

The annual Rosamond Johnson Beach Day celebration will take place at his namesake Johnson Beach in the Gulf Islands National Seashore at 10 a.m. on May 1. The event was canceled in 2020 due to Covid restrictions in place at that time.

After enlisting in the US Army at 15, Johnson (**pictured**) died in combat two years later on the Korean Peninsula. While engaged with the enemy, on July 26, 1950, Private Johnson carried two wounded soldiers to safety. He was fatally wounded while attempting to save a third wounded man.



story of the selfless bravery of Private Johnson and the history of this beach is a story worthy of national attention and we hope to see the event grow exponentially over the years.”

At the time of Johnson’s death, Pensacola beaches were racially segregated. The Sunset Riding Club, Inc. leased a county-owned recreational area in 1950 for the sole use of bathing and recreational facilities for “colored citizens.” In honor of his ultimate sacrifice, and in recognition as the first Escambia County resident to die in the Korean Conflict, the recreational area became known as Rosamond Johnson Beach. The area became part of Gulf Islands National Seashore in 1971, and the name was retained. Today, a monument and exhibit honor Private Johnson and his service.

For the past decade, the Perdido Key Chamber of Commerce has invited the Johnson Family, local and national dignitaries, and the public to the beach to honor the memory of this local hero.

Johnson Beach is open daily from 5 a.m. to 8 p.m., March 1 through Oct. 1 and 5 a.m. to 6 p.m., Nov. 1 thru Feb. 28. For more info, go to VisitPerdido.com.

On August 21, 1950, Rosamond was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart for wounds he sustained while saving his fellow soldiers.

In honor of the sacrifice paid by Army Private Rosamond Johnson and his family, the National Park Service waives entrance fees to the Johnson Beach area from 9 a.m. to noon on the day of the annual commemoration ceremony. The national seashore was granted an entry fee waiver at the park’s request in 2019.

Erin Wilmer, Chair of the Chamber’s Military Affairs Council stated, “The



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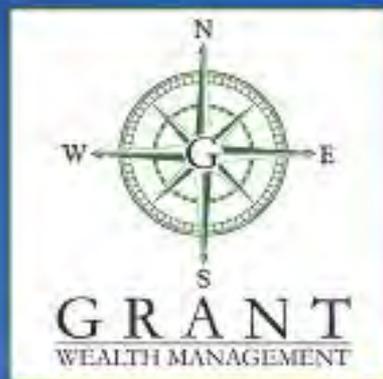


**Matt Grant, CLU**

[mgrant@grantwealthmanagement.com](mailto:mgrant@grantwealthmanagement.com)

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## 2021 OUTDOOR ALABAMA PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

As usual, the judges had a very difficult time selecting the winning photos from among the thousands entered in the 2021 Outdoor Alabama Photo Contest. Each winner will receive a prize pack and be featured in a traveling exhibit throughout 2021. When the 2021 traveling exhibit schedule is finalized, it will be posted on [outdooralabama.com](http://outdooralabama.com).

Winners with local affiliations included: Alabama State Parks - John Marvin Hillsman, III, Gulf State Park Beach Pavilion. Birds - Matthew Dees, Brown Pelican on the Mobile Causeway; Cold-blooded Critters - Sean C. Grizzle, Baracuda. Sweet Home Alabama - Gwen Ainsworth, USS Alabama Battleship and Skyline in Mobile; Linda P. McCullough, Diner in Gulf Shores. Shoots and Roots - Benjamin Rollings, Live Oak at Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge. Scenic - Lee Miller, Sunset on Fort Morgan. Young Photographers - Sophia Charlotte Haines (first place), Snowy Plover Chick in Fort Morgan.



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# CLASSIFIEDS

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### JUST NORTH OF GULF SHORES

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Belle Fountain / Elsanor; 2 Acres. High and Dry. Premium land. Financing available with \$2500 down; Ryals Realty. 251-978-LAND

### RV LOT

RV lot for sale; Brand new RV Resort in Gulf Shores. HUGE RV lots. Early release pricing; \$89,900. Financing available with as little as \$2,000 down. Ryals Realty. 251-978-LAND.

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### DOWNTOWN FAIRHOPE

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cellent location in the center of town on Fairhope Avenue. Currently used as a restaurant. New roof in 2020. Heat and cool units are 1 & 2 years old. Possible leaseback by sellers if buyer is interested; \$895,000. Randy Branch, 251-680-6096.

## FOR RENT

### SENIORS - 1BR

Attn seniors; one bedroom for lease in Gulf Shores; Roomy Island Style Cottage apt in downtown Gulf Shores, ON the Inter-coastal 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 \$890/mo. Text 251-752-0381.

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**RV LOT BET. FOLEY & GULF SHORES**  
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### LONG TERM RV LOT

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### HIGHWAY 59 FRONTAGE

Hwy. 59 frontage lot for lease; North Side of Foley. 220' frontage. Approx 2 acres. \$1000 per month. No improvements...lot only. 251-269-2156.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### YARD SALE-HICKORY BEND

Hickory Bend subdivision Yard Sale - Foley AL, Hickory and Azalea St.; Friday April 23 and Saturday April 24, 2021. 8AM to 5 PM each day.

## SERVICES

### HANDYMAN

Handyman services to include Sheetrock repair, painting, lawn care, fence repair and light tree removal. All services performed by local Gulf Coast Veterans. Please call 228-229-7765 for a free estimate. (825)

### PAINTING/PRESSURE WASH

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free estimate or if you prefer you can email us at [bealcurbappeal@yahoo.com](mailto:bealcurbappeal@yahoo.com). We are licensed and insured and all work is backed by a one year guarantee. (4/21)

### 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.

### ART LESSONS

Art Lessons w Talis @ Artworks Studio and gallery @ Villagio on Perdido Key; Talis 850-261-9617; 13700 Perdido Key Dr.

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