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## SPRING Is For FESTIVALS in South Baldwin!

Potter Steve Dark has been creating award winning art on Pleasure Island for 40 years!  
Stories on Pages 4 & 6

- Ballyhoo & Zydeco fests in Gulf Shores
- Art fests in Fairhope & Orange Beach
- Hot Air Balloon, BBQ & Blues fests in Foley



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## AROUND TOWN

### 48th Annual Orange Beach Festival of Art March 12-13

The Coastal Arts Center of Orange Beach will present the 48th annual Orange Beach Festival of Art March 12-13 on the joint grounds of the Coastal Arts Center of Orange Beach and Waterfront Park on Canal Road. Festival hours are Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The festival is completely free with public parking located at the Event Center at The Wharf. Shuttle service provided by BRATS with an all day pass for \$5. Bike riders can park at the Bicycle Village on the Arts Center grounds.

With more than 100 artists working in a dazzling variety of mediums, festival-goers always have plenty to see, hear, touch, taste and smell as art vendors, musical performers and artist demonstrations deliver a multitude of sensory experiences.

As always, helpful hands are needed to assist in various areas of the fest. Call Katrina Anderson at 251-923-5808 if available to volunteer for shifts either Saturday or Sunday.

### Fairhope Art Festival will celebrate 70 years March 18-20

The Fairhope Arts and Crafts Festival will welcome artists from all over the United States to the charming streets of downtown Fairhope March 18-19 from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily. The fest attracts more than 200 exhibitors from around the country and has earned several prestigious national awards for the quality of its art and for promoting appreciation of the arts and supporting art education. All fest proceeds go back into the community through local scholarships and grants available to students and organizations in the Fairhope community. The festival is free. More info: [fairhopeartsandcraftsfestival.com](http://fairhopeartsandcraftsfestival.com).

### Gulf Coast Hot Air Balloon Fest May 12-14 at OWA in Foley

Foley is the spot for high-flying adventure and family fun at the May 12-14 Gulf Coast Hot Air Balloon Festival. Enjoy live entertainment, arts and crafts displays and more on the expansive grounds of OWA. Balloon flights, glows and tethered rides (weather permitting) add to the fun at dawn and dusk. Named Alabama Tourism's Event of the Year in 2021, the fest features fine food and retail vendors, access to The Park at OWA, the popular Dare Devil Dog Show, kids inflatables, pony and camel rides and a spectacular mass ascension by as many as 40 balloonists. Info: [gulfcoastballoonfestival.com](http://gulfcoastballoonfestival.com)

### World's best zydeco bands booked for April 16 fest in G.S.

Some of the most highly regarded zydeco icons in the world, including Buckwheat Zydeco Jr., Rockin Dopsie Jr. and Rosie Ledet, have been booked to play the April 16 Waterway Village Zydeco and Crawfish Fest in Gulf Shores. The event will be moved across the street to the parking lot west of Tacky Jack's and east of The Sloop this year. The fest is free and includes arts and crafts vendors and children's activities on site.

The City of Gulf Shores, the Coastal Alabama Business Chamber, Gulf Shores and Orange Beach Tourism, and Waterway Village merchants are listed as joint sponsors of the fest.

Festivities will kick off at 8 a.m. with a 5K run/walk benefitting Furrever Homes. For more information, call 251-968-1171 or visit [gulfshoresAL.gov](http://gulfshoresAL.gov). The full music line-up: 10 a.m. - Donna Angelle & the Zydeco Posse; 11:30 a.m. - Rosie Ledet & the Zydeco Playboys; 1 p.m. - Excelsior; 1:15 p.m. - Ils Sont Partis Band Ft. Buckwheat Zydeco Jr.; 2:30 p.m. - Rockin Dopsie Jr.; 4:30 p.m. - Chubby Carrier & the Bayou Swamp Band.

### BBQ & Blues Cook-Off is March 12 at Heritage Park

The BBQ & Blues Fest & Cook-off will be held on Saturday, March 12 in Heritage Park, located at the intersection of Hwy 59 & 98 in Downtown Foley. Festival-goers will enjoy award-winning barbeque samples, popular blues bands like The Defrosters, craft and retail vendors, and children's activities during the South Baldwin Chamber Foundation sponsored cook-off.

Admission is \$10 per person, with children ages 10 and under admitted free. Over 25 backyard division cook teams from across the Gulf Coast will compete for the title and other top prizes. Competition categories are: Chicken, Ribs, Boston Butts, Sauce, Dessert, and Anything "Butt" which includes exotic items and seafood. There is also a People's Choice award.

Food trucks will be on-site, and beer, wine, soft drinks, and water will also be for sale. And, don't forget to purchase an official BBQ & Blues Cook-Off T-shirt while they last!

Logan Spicer, Mike Diamond, Josh Newcom and Tim Roberts will play at a kick-off event from 5-9 p.m. on March 11. Tickets for the Friday night Drawdown are \$10 and include entry to the drawdown and must be purchased in advance. Tickets for Saturday's cook-off are sold separately.

All proceeds benefit the South Baldwin Chamber Foundation to support thirteen local schools through programs and partnerships that enrich education and better the community.

### Schedule

- 11 - Gates Open and Samples Begin
- 11 - Foley Elementary Ukulele Group
- 11:20 - Spearman Brewers
- 12:30 - Student/Teacher Grants Announced
- 1 - True Blue Band
- 2:45 - The Defrosters
- 4:30 - Cook-off Awards Presentation



### Ballyhoo Fest March 5-6 at Gulf State Park

By Fran Thompson

As always, the tribal dancers from the Poarch Creek Indians will be a major attraction when the locally produced Ballyhoo Fest returns to the shores of Lake Shelby (20115 State Park Rd.) at Gulf State Park in Gulf Shores on March 5-6. Hours are 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Sunday.

The fest is also a showcase for fine artists from all over the Southeast and includes fiddler and banjo competitions. But at its core, the fest has always taken pride in being a cultural exchange with the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, who will perform traditional dances dressed in spectacular ceremonial regalia twice on Saturday. Each of the dances has a specific meaning. And the audience will be invited to join the tribe for their last tribal dance at both performances.

The Poarch Creek Indians are descendants of the original Creek Nation, which once covered almost all of Alabama and Georgia. Unlike many southeastern tribes, the Poarch Creeks were not removed from their tribal lands. They have lived together for over 150 years as the only nationally recognized tribe in Alabama.

The fest's Sunday banjo and fiddle competitions are sponsored by Flora-Bama Lounge & Package and the Frank Brown International Songwriters Fest. Both competitions include separate youth and adult divisions and will award cash prizes to the best players. For more fest info, visit [ballyhoofestival.org](http://ballyhoofestival.org).

Another fest highlight is a Sunday performance from the Cotton Pickin' Kids, six siblings, ages 11 to 19, who play different instruments and specialize in bluegrass music.

The fest includes a children's art tent, live art demonstrations and unique food. Parking is available across from the Lake Shelby fest site at Gulf State Pier for \$5, and limited handicapped parking is available on festival grounds. Attendees can also drop off and pick up at the park entrance, then park across the street and walk over the bridge to the festival. Shuttles will be available at the Gulf State Pavilion only if there is a need for overflow parking.

### Music and Performance Schedule

- March 5**
- 9 - The Destinations (pictured)
- 11 - Poarch Creek Indians Tribal Dance
- Noon - Emily Stuckey & Amanda Donald
- 1 - Rollin' in the Hay
- 4 - Poarch Creek Indians Tribal Dance
- March 6**
- 11 - Sharon Bounds, Weston Stewart of Bounds and Determined
- Noon - Fiddle/Banjo Competition
- 3 - Cotton Pickin' Kids
- 4 - Fiddle/Banjo Competition & Announcement of Winners



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# After 40 years and hundreds of awards, Steve Dark still thinks his most creative work is in front of him

## Proprietor of World Pottery Headquarters in Gulf Shores found his fate working the door at Sam & Shine's

By Fran Thompson

It is entirely possible that if Steve Dark did not take a job working the door at the legendary Sam & Shine's (There is a Walgreens there now.) more than 40 years ago, he would not have ended up forging a career in the creative arts.

**"I just decided to start making what I thought I should be making. That's when things started to turn."**

A Detroit native, Dark moved to Bon Secour in 1979 to live with his father. He was two years out of high school and had never even considered art as a career path.

Content to party and work in the service industry or off-shore on supply and crew boats, he was enjoying life as a care free young man and working the door at Sam & Shine Powell's

popular juke joint when he met local potter Steve Burrow.

Soon after that, Dark started hanging out at Burrow's studio. But his friend insisted that if he was going to hang around, he had to work. So Dark helped Burrow with the grunt work of churning out mugs and cups. He liked it. But he wasn't thinking it was going to turn into a career that would see him still working in that same exact studio more than 40 years later.

"I was usually hungover when I was there, and I really had no idea what I wanted to do," Dark said from World Pottery Headquarters in Gulf Shores. "Steve had already graduated from South Alabama in ceramics and he suggested I go to college."

Although he was accepted into every school he applied to from T-Town to Tampa, Dark decided on South Alabama because it was the closest to his adopted home. He ended up being the only graduate in pottery in his class.

He was already selling art at fests and shows while at South, but upon graduation he took off for Edinboro University in Western Pennsylvania to earn his masters in fine arts. It was there that he had no choice but to get serious about his craft. The school had three full time demanding pottery instructors and a student body that inspired him to create.

"It was like night and day," he said. "The quality of the instruction just blew me away."

Dark brought two classmates from Ed-

inboro with him when he returned to Pleasure Island after earning his masters. He inherited the lease from Burrow, who by that time had built a studio behind his home. He named the studio Pottery Central World Headquarters. And he has been there ever since.

"That is where the name came out of. We were friends, but we were all so different. The phone rang constantly and it was never for the person who answered the phone," Dark said. "Of course, we were all still moonlighting to keep our art going."

Although he put his offshore gigs behind him, Dark waited tables for seven years at Perdido Beach Resort and taught art at Faulkner State while learning the ropes of the festival circuit.

It wasn't until after 2004's Hurricane Ivan that he decided to put almost all of his energy into art. His style now can be identified in everything from the gloss of his glaze to the viscosity of his clay. His colors, textures, even his curing methodology are all well thought out and unique to him.

"I just decided to start making what I thought I should be making. That's when things started to turn," he said.

He has won literally hundreds of ribbons at art festivals dating back to his days at South. He modestly credits that to his advanced academic training, not his creative ingenuity.

But he is proud of a best of show ribbon he won last November at the Peter Anderson Art Fest in Ocean Springs, if only because the show's namesake was a world renowned potter.

Dark will participate in the March 5-6 Ballyhoo Festival at Lake Shelby, but he will skip the following weekend's Festival of Art in Orange Beach to build up his stock for the 70th Annual Fairhope Art Fest later in March.

He said he does not keep track of how many hours he works each day or each week, but his goal every day is to find a zone where time and creativity are blurred.

"It does sometimes seem like I am in here all the time. But I purposely try not to keep track of the hours. It would probably be depressing, if I think about all the time I spend in here when other people are doing fun things. I tell people I'm married to the clay. When the clay calls, I have to go."

Dark added that when he answers that call, it sometimes results in creative nirvana.

"It's kind of selfish in a way. But it's also a beautiful place to be. That is where the best stuff comes from. Total immersion."

Dark continues to teach classes at

Coastal Alabama Community College and he continues to make turtles, seashells and cups that the Gulf Shores City Store buys in bulk, but he more than ever sees those activities as distractions that keep him away from reaching his creative peak.

"I do work all the time, and I'm not as fun as I used to be. That is for sure," he said.

Maybe his best known creations are the flummoxed faces he creates on a variety of torsos, planters and jugs.

Face jugs in Dark's style originated in the U.S. with slave potters from Africa who made ugly faces to put on graves to scare evil spirits away. They later turned up on jugs to warn people to not drink the contents. But Dark's faces are like no others. He said they are not necessarily self portraits. But they were inspired by surviving a hurricane, a flood and a fire.

"I'm sure I had that look on my face for awhile," he said.

Dark also produced submersible art in the way of hula girls and busts that he put in lagoons and waterways around Gulf Shores. Barnacles eventually attached to the busts, taking the work to an entirely new dimension.

The key to his art and his enthusiasm for it is its ever changing possibilities. His latest passion is creating Appalachian folk art ring jugs using a wood fire kiln. Collectors can hang the jugs on a wall like a canteen.

He still makes turtles, seashells and

"potheads" that he sells at Rick Tino's studio in Gulf Shores, the Coastal Art Center in Orange Beach, The Eastern Shore Art Center in Fairhope, the Foley Art Center and Innova Arts on Old Shell Rd. in Mobile. But that is not his future.

"I still do things to make ends meet, and it's a fair trade off because it's better than waiting tables, I guess, although that was fun. I quit working at the hotel (Perdido Beach Resort) in 2000 and I've been teaching for 22 years at Coastal Community College. I wouldn't mind giving teaching up just to keep the doors open here all the time," he said.

Dark knows his art will change direction, but he has no compass in his pocket to indicate what direction his creative juices will flow.

"It would be interesting to know. I wish I had a crystal ball. I'm not much for setting mile markers though. Maybe I'll be in the same place, but farther along," he said.

"I'm always trying to learn," he added. "I think when you make a breakthrough, it opens up a whole new channel. But it's hard to tell when that will come. I think musicians go through the same kind of thing."

*Pottery Central World Headquarters is located at 2417 East Second St. in Gulf Shores (kitty-corner from Big Beach Brewery). Call 251-968-4982 for more information and hours.*

**Pictured:** Steve Dark with his best of show award from November's Peter Anderson Art Fest in Ocean Springs.





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## 2022 KREWE DE SWAN MARDI GRAS BALL

The Krewe de Swan is a new Krewe, which began in 2020. The Krewe's motto is Partying, Parades and Philanthropy. Due to COVID, the Swans were not able to have an annual ball or participate in parades until 2022. In the interim, members worked tirelessly fundraising. The Swans enjoy a relationship with the Mystics of Pleasure, and assisted them with the Taste of the Island, which was a huge success in December 2021. Thank you MOPS. Swans will participate in a full schedule of parades in 2022. The Krewe celebrated its first annual ball at Craft Farms Clubhouse on Friday, February 11th. Attendees enjoyed a cajun feast provided by Lunas, and danced the night away to the sounds of the Groovenators. Look for the members at parades, wearing signature tuxedo tails, emblazoned with swans. Swans will also be throwing fancy flip flops, personally decorated by each member. Laissez les bons temps rouler.





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## Local Mardi Gras Parade Schedule

### Friday, Feb 25

6:45 p.m. – Maids of Jubilee (Fairhope)  
7:30 p.m. - Krewe of Lafitte Illuminated Parade (Pensacola)

### Saturday, Feb 26

11 a.m. – Foley parade (Foley)  
12 p.m. – Pardi Gras Fest (Innerarity Point)  
2 p.m. – Krewe of Mullet Mates (Mullet Point)  
2 p.m. – Grand Mardi Gras Parade, Downtown Pensacola  
2:30 p.m. - Puppy Gras Pet Parade (OWA-Foley)  
5:30 p.m. – Mystics of Pleasure, (Orange Beach)  
5:30 p.m. - Marshals Motorcycle Parade (Orange Beach)  
6:45 p.m. – The Shadow Barons (Daphne)

### Sunday, Feb 27 (Joe Cain Day)

1 p.m. – Joe Cain Day Parade & Street Party, Mobile  
1 p.m. – Ft. Morgan Parade, Ft. Morgan  
1 p.m. - Bon Secour River Boat Parade: Galley to Royal Oyster  
1 p.m. – Krewe of Wrecks Parade, Pensacola Beach  
2 p.m. – Krewe of the Royal Riff-Raff, Pirates Cove  
2 p.m. - Black Water Brass Band (Foley, OWA)  
2:29 p.m. – Loyal Order of the Fire Truck (Daphne)  
3 p.m. - Johnny Barbato & The Lucky Doggs; Pirates Cove  
4 p.m. - Doctor Zarr's Amazing Funk Monster (Foley, OWA)  
6 p.m. – Krewe du Cirque Grand Parade (Foley, OWA)

### Monday, Feb 28 (Lundi Gras)

4 p.m. – Kid & Pet Parade, The Wharf, Orange Beach  
6 p.m. – Evening Float Parade, The Wharf, Orange Beach  
6:45 p.m. – Order of Mystic Magnolias (Fairhope)

### Tuesday, March 1 (Fat Tuesday)

7-10 a.m. - Pancake Breakfast: PBUMC Auditorium (Gulf Shores)  
10 a.m. - Gulf Shores Parade (Gulf Shores)  
11 a.m. - Mr. Big & The Rhythm Sisters, Lulu's (Gulf Shores)  
11 a.m. - Music on two stages all day, Flora-Bama (Perdido Key)  
Noon. - Grayson Capps, Big Beach Brewery (Gulf Shores)  
Noon - Cowboy Blues Band: The Angry Crab, (Orange Beach)  
2 p.m. - Orange Beach Parade (Orange Beach)  
3 p.m. - Post Parade Party w/ DJ Kelly; Sandshaker at Wharf  
3:05 p.m. - LuLu's Boat Parade, Wharf to LuLu's, Pleasure Isle  
4 p.m. - Kelly Poole & The Swing Set, Lulu's (Gulf Shores)  
4 p.m. - Chris Beverly Experience, Doc's Seafood, (Orange Beach)  
5 p.m. - Gypsy Pearl: 5; The Angry Crab, (Orange Beach)

## Gulf Shores Parade to follow beach route

Gulf Shores Mardi Gras parade to roll along the beach instead of down Hwy. 59 on Fat Tuesday, March 1 beginning at 10 a.m. The parade staging will be on West Beach Boulevard and the route will go along the beach road to the Gulf State Park Lodge.

City officials stated correctly that the new route would be less intrusive for Gulf Shores residents and allow for traffic to flow more freely to Fort Morgan, West Beach and Orange Beach from Gulf Shores' main corridor.

The parade will roll from Hwy. 59 and East Beach Blvd. east to the Gulf State Park Pier.

Many of the floats will Floats can continue toward Orange Beach to join the Orange Beach Mardi Gras Parade or circle back through Gulf State Park. Parking will be available at public lots, and businesses open during the parade and public roads that are not marked otherwise. Barracades will be in place to separate floats and revelers.

## Orange Beach parades Feb. 26, March 1

Mardi Gras parades in Orange Beach will begin to roll with The Mystics of Pleasure, The Marshals, and other local krewes on Saturday, Feb. 26 at 5:30 p.m. and conclude Fat Tuesday, March 1 with the city's parade starting at 2 p.m. The parades start at Perdido Beach Blvd. at the traffic signal just east of Phoenix West and end at Alabama. 161 near the Publix shopping center. The Grand Marshal for the city's Fat Tuesday parade will be Miss Alabama Lauren Bradford, a Gulf Shores native who was

named first runner-up in the 2022 Miss America competition. The Orange Beach High School Band, and Mardi Gras krewes such as Bon Temps Cabrix, Treasures of the Isle, Sirens of the Sea, Order of Disorder, Order of Aurora, Maidens in Pink Stilettos and Mystics of Pleasure will also participate. The parade Saturday parade will include motorcycles, five marching bands and more than 15 floats.

## Foley's people's parade is Feb. 26

The Krewe De Koaz welcomes all participants to participate in the Feb. 26 Foley Mardi Gras parade, which starts at 11 a.m. at the intersection of Roosevelt and Alston streets. The parade winds north on Alston before turning west on U.S. 98 and finally heading south on Oak Street. This parade is open to pre-registration from the public, and as such, we call it a people's parade. If you'd like to ride in the parade or twirl your parasol in the second line, contact Paul Adams at 251-923-6918.

## Fat Tuesday Pancakes at PBUMC

The Gulf Shores United Methodist Church Men will host its Fat Tuesday Pancake Day from 7-10 a.m. on March 1 at the church auditorium (behind Zaxby's near the intercostal bridge.) Hot pancakes, sausage, coffee, etc. will be served. Tickets are \$6 in advance and \$7 at the door. Music, plenty of food, parking and fun! Tickets can be purchased at the church office or from any of the GS Methodist Men. A Gulf Shores Tradition. Join Us! Laissez le bon temps rouler!

## Feb. 26 Puppy Gras & Feb. 27 Krewe du Cirque parade at OWA

Foley's entertainment resort OWA will host its inaugural Puppy Gras Pet Parade on Feb. 26 beginning at 2:30 p.m. on OWA Island. A pet-friendly costume contest immediately to follow on the OWA Island stage.

OWA will follow up third annual Mardi Gras Parade & Party featuring Krewe du Cirque on Feb. 27. The celebration begins at 2 p.m. with complimentary activities including live concerts on OWA Island by Troy Laz Band and Doctor Zarr's Amazing Funk Monster, kids' activities, face painting, photo booth and a walking parade. The parade kicks off at 6 p.m. with an extended route and will travel through Downtown OWA twice. The good times continue after the parade with live music on OWA Island until 8 p.m.

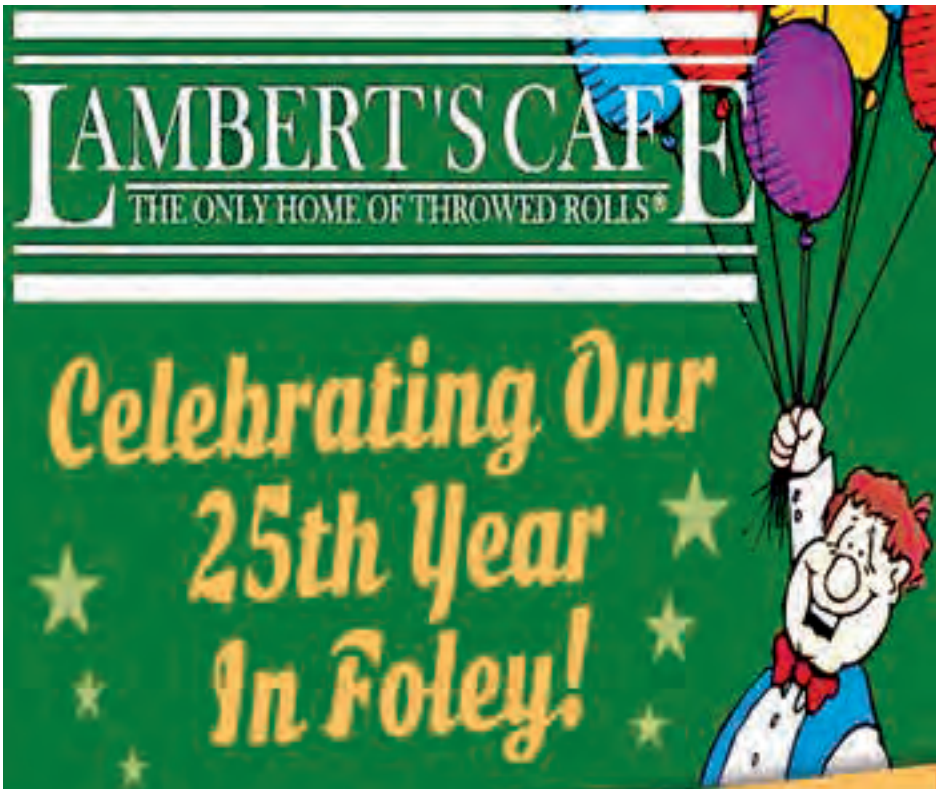
## Fort Morgan Mardi Gras parade ready to roll on Feb. 27

The Fort Morgan Mardi Gras Parade will be back meandering along a beachside strip about 16 miles west of Alabama 59 on Sunday, Feb. 27 at 1 p.m. Go to [fortmorganalmardigras.com](http://fortmorganalmardigras.com) for info about how to participate in the grass roots event, which is open to all, free to enter and sponsored by the Fort Morgan Parading Society. Email entries to [gpdecorpaint@gmail.com](mailto:gpdecorpaint@gmail.com) or text or call parade founder (with help from Lida Kay, Max Weston and others) Gayle Pierce at 251-423-4722.

The parade starts at the intersection of Tripletail Lane and Ponce DeLeon Court. It will trace 1.9 miles west along the Gulf of Mexico before turning north at the intersection of South Bernard Court. and ending at Ft. Morgan Road. Ft. Morgan bistros Tacky Jacks, Sassy Bass Island Grill and Sassy Bass Amazin' Grill will host post parade parties.



**ICONIC CARNIVAL BALL:** ICONIC Entertainment & The Wharf Entertainment Group started the Mardi Gras season with the Mardi Gras Carnival Ball at Ginny Lane Bar & Grill. Featuring The Platinum Premier Band, The Infamous La Santa Damiana, a stilt walker, caricature artist, fire performer and various carnival games, the ball "was nothing short of magical," according to ICONIC President Trishelle Paris. "All attendees were left in complete awe, from the interactive makeshift Bourbon Street filled with a variety of unique carnival games & characters," she said. Contact Trishelle Paris at 251.609.5847 for more ICONIC party hosting information.



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# \$74 million indoor water park will open at OWA this May

A \$74 million indoor water park will open at OWA this in May in an area of the Foley destination district that will now be branded Tropic Falls at OWA and include the entertainment resort's signature amusement park.

The 65,000-ft building will be the first in the entire country to include a retractable walls and a retractable roof.

With the new addition of the waterpark, now a single gate admission ticket can be purchased for multiple attractions. Tickets and pricing information for the new waterpark will be available this Spring

The indoor water park will be a year-round attraction and include 11 slides, a lazy river and a children's area.

The 65,000-ft building will be the first in the entire country to include a retractable walls and a retractable roof, according to OWA officials.

Some of the slides will have loops that extend outside the walls, and one, aptly named Tangerine Scream, will have a 75 ft. vertical drop. Another notable slide is Piranha Plunge, a 75' super loop with a drop floor.

The water park complex will also include a restaurant and retail area, a concert stage, a lazy river, and a 30,000-square-foot outdoor wave pool named Big Water Bay.

The park will also include lockers rooms, private party rooms and an arcade, a kids' play area with a 6-inch pool and tip buckets, private cabanas, concessions and a

cocktail bar and restaurant named Smugglers Café.

Around 300 seasonal workers, including 100 lifeguards, will be hired to work at the water park. Currently, the amusement park employs approximately 375 part-time positions and OWA Corporate Division employs 75 full-time positions

Behind the stage are will be a 48-foot screen that can be used to broadcast movies, simulcasts and football games in high definition or for live performances.

OWA also announced it has partnered with Kidcam Camps to bring summer day camps for children 5-13 to Downtown OWA this summer. Campers will have access to daily activities and programs through Kidcam's curriculum of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Kids will also enjoy sports, arts and swimming. Camps are scheduled on weekdays from May 31-Aug. 5 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Stephanie Bryan, tribal chair & CEO of the Poarch Creek Indians, said the new water park will be a slice of tropical paradise and a win-win for the Tribe and the City of Foley.

"What better place to go in the summer and winter?" she said.

Originally opened as The Park at OWA in 2017, the resort is transforming its 14-acre amusement park, featuring 23 rides and attractions, as well as a the new water park expansion into a tropical paradise named Tropic Falls.

Being inspired with OWA's meaning of big water, which is derived from the Muscogee Creek language, the entire amusement park will now be filled with tropical touches allowing guests to feel like they have stepped into an island paradise.

This will include a complete makeover of the front gate and an expansion of tropical theming throughout. Guests can still enjoy the amusement park on weekends during the winter season, even while construction is taking place at the entrance.

"We are incredibly proud of OWA, the direction its moving and the economic impact it continues to have on not only the local community but state as well," said "We are so excited to share that upon completion, Tropic Falls will be the only indoor water park in the United States with a retractable wall and retractable roof, allowing for the ultimate experience in Coastal Alabama climate control," said Kristin Hellmich, the Director of Marketing and Public

Relations for OWA Parks & Resort.

Tropic Falls will introduce a toucan as its first mascot. People can vote on their favorite names for this tropical friend or suggest one themselves through a survey link on OWA Parks & Resort Facebook page.

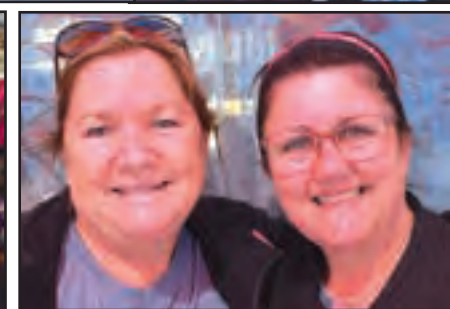
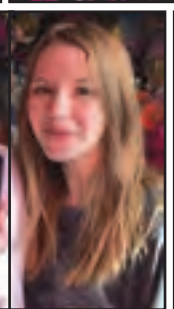
The projected opening date for the water park is May 2022.

OWA is owned and operated by the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. OWA's name is derived from a Creek word for "big water," and the tropical theme of the 520-acre property was inspired by the Gulf of Mexico. Just outside the ticketed areas is Downtown OWA, a pedestrian-only streetscape was inspired by Southern small towns with numerous options for dining, shopping, and entertainment.

Future planned phases at OWA include a luxury RV Resort with 150+ sites set to open this fall.



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## AROUND TOWN



### Little Lagoon piers needed for oyster garden program Volunteers, cages & gear are available to willing property owners

Property owners with a pier or access to a pier in Little Lagoon are needed for the Little Lagoon Preservation Society oyster gardening program. Maintenance is minimal - about 30 minutes a week, and the only requirement is access to a pier/dock to suspend oyster babies (spat) in Little Lagoon waters. LLPS will provide cages, spat and gear for gardening.

"We'll also teach you what you need to know to be a successful gardener," said LLPS President Dennis Hatfield.

Gardening season is from late May thru mid-November. And the oysters are for restoration purposes only.

In 2021, Little Lagoon gardeners utilized 32 sites to grow 35,068 oysters with an average length of 2.06". The oysters were moved to Mobile Bay and restored.

"This was an awesome effort by all involved, especially considering we are still recovering from Hurricane Sally, which heavily damaged or destroyed 70 to 80 percent of Lagoon gardening piers," Hatfield said.

For more info, email Hatfield at dennishatfield@gmail.com or call 251-942-2233.

### All invited to March 8 Ancient Aviators gathering in G.S.

Kenneth Higdon will describe activities of the Experimental Aircraft Assn. (EAA) in the Magnolia Springs area at the March 8 Ancient Aviators social group gathering at American Legion Post 44 in Gulf Shores. The meeting starts at 8:30 a.m. The Ancient Aviators, 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 normally meets the first Tuesday of each month, but the March meeting is moved back one week due to Mardi Gras. Visitors are always welcome. Info: bensman84@aol.com or 251-990-8258.

EAA has restored -- or built as kit planes -- aircraft such as the Zodiac Light Sport aircraft currently being worked on and an RV-4. Additionally, Higdon will outline his mentoring activities with the students from the Gulf Shores High School's class in aircraft assembly. This is a 'hands-on' program whereby students are actually fabricating a RV-12, a 100 HP kit plane that is being constructed from the ground up.

Last month's meeting featured retired Lt. Gen. Janet Cobb, director of Battleship Park.

### American Legion baseball tryouts are April 2 in Lillian

American Legion Posts 48 and 240 are sponsoring the inaugural season of the Bay Blues American Legion senior baseball team for players 16-19 (as of Jan. 1st 2003). Try-outs will take place at Lillian Recreational Park (33914 Widell Ave.) on April 2 at 9 a.m. The team will practice twice per week to prepare for the June 1 - July 15 season. State and regional play-offs are from July 15 - 31. High school players can't practice until their season ends. The team is geared towards high school juniors and seniors, but you do not need to be on a high school team to try-out. There is no fee to participate, but travel expenses may occur. For info, volunteer opportunities or sponsorships, contact Jen Sigley @ 904-866-6808, email: jjhigh72@yahoo.com, or Coach Don Sigley @ 850-461-0824.



**ESCAMBIA ROOFMASTERS EARN NATIONAL TITLE:** The Escambia Roadmaster senior softball team, with six players from Alabama, including Gulf Shores resident Matt Barnes, five players from Florida, as well as players from Mississippi and Tennessee, won the World Tournament of Champions 50's Division in a 16 team field earlier this month. The Roofmasters, formed just 18 months ago, play tournaments about once per month. They are scheduled to play tournaments March 4-6 in Huntsville and March 26-27 in Gulf Shores. "There were some really good teams there and we knew it was going to be competitive," Barnes said. "We were just really pleased to bring the trophy back to the Gulf Coast, and we appreciate all who helped us get there." The Roofmasters went 7-1 in the tourney and beat teams from South Carolina, Vero Beach, Indiana, Charlotte and Cleveland to claim the title. Todd Cornelius was the tourney MVP, and Allen Lowery, Jimmy Strickland and Drew Pinckley made the all-tourney team.

**Pictured:** Team members (top) Walter Blair, Edgar Trice, Todd Cornelius, Jimmy Strickland, Jason Jagneaux, Allen Lowery, Jimmy Calhoun, (front) Scott Rayburn, Steve Steward, Shain Fowler, Drew Pinckley, Matt Barnes. Not pictured: Ron Mann and John Gravat.

### Muddy Water 5K March 5 at Graham Creek

The Muddy Water Challenge 5K Terrain & Kids Fun Run will be held on Saturday, March 5 t 8 a.m. at Graham Creek Nature Preserve in Foley. Registration is \$45 and \$25, respectively, including a race t-shirt and a post race celebration. Proceeds will benefit the American Autism & Rehabilitation Foundation, which offers sensory-friendly programs and therapeutic services for the local special needs community. Register online at register.chronotrack.com or contact Christy Kelley Wilson @ christyk@americanautismcenter.org.

### Lions Golf Tourney April 15 at Peninsula

Registration and sponsorship opportunities are open for the 47th Annual Gulf Shores Lions Club Max Wilson Memorial Golf for Sight Tournament scheduled Friday, April 15 at Peninsula Golf Club.

The 4-ball tourney utilizes a blind draw to pair up two person teams to give everyone a fair chance to win regardless of handicap. The \$125 per person entry fee includes a post tournament meal, fabulous prizes and supports the many Lions Club charities. The entry fee also includes green fees, cart rental, range balls, a raffle ticket, and three beverage tickets. Cash Prizes will be awarded on each and every hole in addition to prizes for the top three teams. Players are invited to sign up alone or with a partner. The entry fee is collected at sign-in on tourney day. Registration begins at 10 a.m. and play begins at noon.

Various levels of sponsorship opportunities are also available. Contact Luoma at 440-813-8424 or Brett Taylor at 251-747-5493 for more info.

All money raised will be used to support chari-

ties for the visually impaired and blind and the Miracle League of Coastal Alabama baseball field and boundless playground being built in Summerdale.

"We actually don't care what your golf handicap is because there is no way for anyone to sandbag with our format, and players really enjoy playing because of the quality course," said Luoma, the tourney director.

### Foley United Methodist Fish-Fry March 4

The Foley United Methodist Church Fish Fry will be held on March 4 from 11-1 p.m. at 915 N. Pine Street in Foley.

### Good Life Ride May 13 at State Park Lodge

The 13th Annual Alabama Coastal Foundation Good Life Ride will be held on May 7 at The Lodge at Gulf State Park, a world leader in the sustainable tourism movement. This year's participants will be able to choose from nine and 19-mile round trip routes from The Lodge along paved park trails. As in the past, the 2021 ride helped raise awareness for bicycle safety. For more info, visit joinACF.org or email info@joinACF.org.

Riders can register online at: imathlete.com/events. Early bird registration is from April 6-26 for \$25, with a t-shirt included the cost is \$35, and prices increase after.

"More people getting out to enjoy our natural resources benefits everyone's health and our local economy," said Mark Berte, the executive director of the Alabama Coastal Foundation. "This is family friendly and a great way to treat your mother or friends to a beautiful part of coastal Alabama."





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# FRANK BROWN INTERNATIONAL SONGWRITERS FEST VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PARTY





## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### WED, FEB 23

- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; 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).
- Bingo w. Tim Roberts: 6; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.
- Danny Grady: 3:30; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Karaoke: 7; Sassy Bass Amazin' Grill; Fort Morgan.
- Bingo: 6; Tacky Jacks; Orange Beach.
- T- Bone Montgomery 6; Front Porch, Lillian.
- John Brust: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- Artie Hopkins: 5; American Legion Post 99, Foley.
- Open Mic: 6; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
- Mason Henderson's Saucy Fuzz: 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- Gary Story & Friends: 8; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- Jeff Ivanhoff: 5; Rotolos, Orange Beach.
- Karaoke: 7; Bar 45 at ONE CLUB, Gulf Shores.
- John Joiner & Darrel Roberts: 6; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde: 7; Pappa Rocco's;

### Gulf Shores.

- Gulf Shores Lions Club: noon; 2nd & 4th Wednesday; noon; Adult Activity Center, Gulf Shores; 251-968-2823.
- BBRC Running Club: 5:30 p.m.; Big Beach Brewery in Gulf Shores.
- Karaoke & League Pool: 7:30; The Office, Foley.
- Gulf Shores Lions Club: noon; 2nd & 4th Wednesday; noon; Adult Activity Center; 251-968-2823.
- AA: Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
- Al-Non: 12:30; Live Oak AFG, St John's Episcopal Church, 401 Live Oak Ave., Pensacola.

### THU, FEB 24

- Andy Andrews Live: 12:15; Andy Andrews General Store & Museum; The Wharf, Orange Beach.
- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; Perdido Key.
- Flora-Bama Family Friendly Bingo: 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- Basch Jernigan: 4; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.
- Gary Story Open mic: 6, Front Porch, Lillian.
- Coconut Radio: 2; Sassy Bass Amazin' Grill; Fort Morgan.
- William Gibson: 5; The Perch, Gulf State Park

### SONGWRITERS FEST VOLUNTEER PARTY



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# WHAT'S HAPPENING



## Kaitlynn Robertson earns top 30 softball recognition

Kaitlynn Robertson, a freshman on the defending state champion Orange Beach High School softball team, was recently ranked 52 among the top 100 recruits in the country for the 2025 class by Extra Innings Softball. Kaitlynn was also selected to attend the USSSA Select 30 event, a comprehensive player identification and development program in Viera, Florida. Those selected receive next level training. While in Viera, Kaitlynn was selected for the Final 30 and was able to play in the all-star game that ended the training camp. She received a custom Marucci glove as an award. During the event, Kaitlynn's statistics both batting and pitching were eye opening. An honor roll student, Kaitlynn hopes to play softball in college while earning a degree in the forensics field.

Lodge, Gulf Shores.

- Bama Beach Pickleball Club: 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
- Karaoke w. Howard: 6; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.
- Tim Roberts: 6; The Tin Top Restaurant, Bon Secour.
- John Brust: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- Karaoke w. Kelly: 8; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- Karaoke: 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- Brandon Giles: 6; Hub Stacy's; Innerarity Point.
- Bridge: 11:30 a.m.; Orange Beach Senior Center, 251-981-3440.
- Kid Friendly Bingo: 6-8 p.m.; drinks & snacks available to purchase; Bear Point Civic Assn; Orange Beach.
- Texas Hold 'em: 7; The Office, Foley.
- Baldwin Senior Softball Group: 10 a.m.; 50 and over; 10 am.; call 225/313-8516 for info & location.
- 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, FEB 25

- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; Perdido Key.
- Flora-Bama Family Friendly Bingo: 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- Guided Pier Walk: 9-10 a.m.; Gulf State Park Pier; Gulf Shores.
- Bama Beach Pickleball Club: 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
- Donna Slater: 4, Front Porch, Lillian.
- Smokey Otis Band: 6, Front Porch, Lillian.
- The Bad Doggs: 6; Big Beach Brewery;

Gulf Shores.

- Gypsy Pearl: 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's; Gulf Shores.
- Open Mic: 7; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
- Truman Holland: 5; The Angry Crab, Orange Beach.
- Darrell Qualls : 5; Carvers Steakhouse, Orange Beach.
- Mondaze: 6; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.
- Bo Grant: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Delta Donnie: 6; Tacky Jacks; Fort Morgan.
- Chase Brown: 5; The Perch, Gulf State Park Lodge, Gulf Shores.
- White Bronco: 9; Sandshaker at the Wharf; Orange Beach.
- Darrell Roberts: 7; Stephi Cocktails / Cuisine; Orange Beach.
- John Brust: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- High Times Band: 7; Hub Stacy's; Innerarity Point.
- Karaoke w. Kelly Ann: 6; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- Karaoke: 8; Snapper's; Orange Beach.
- 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.
- T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly); weigh-in 9; meeting 9:30; Foley Sr. Center, 304 E. Rose Ave.; 251-979-1075.

## SAT, FEB 26

- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; Perdido Key.
- Wiley Pete: 8; Stephi Cocktails-Cuisine; Orange Beach.
- Gypsy Spark: 6; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.
- Zoe Burdett: 4; Tacky Jacks; Gulf Shores.
- Adam Holt: 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's; Gulf Shores.
- Gypsy Spark: 6; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.
- Hippy Jim Sloan: 5; The Angry Crab, Orange Beach.
- Byall's Karaoke & DJ: 9; The Office; Foley.

## Register now for March 19 Island Church Food Pantry

The Island Church in Orange Beach will host its next Island Mobile Food Pantry on Saturday, March 19. 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 with a drive thru. Participants will be required to pre-register, and families are asked to arrive no later than 8 a.m. Space is limited to the first 200 families that register through the office. The church is located at 25550 Canal Rd. in Orange Beach.

## Local author Fisher presentation/book signing March 8

The Friends of Orange Beach Library will host a presentation and book signing with local author Jason Fisher on March 8 at 6 p.m. at the Orange Beach Adult Activity Center (26251 Canal Rd.). Wine & cheese will be served.



Fisher's book, *To Where You Are*, is a moving memoir detailing his story of discovering unconditional love, dealing with grief and trauma following unforeseen tragedies, and forging a new path forward.

Consumed by heartache following his wife's unexpected death after just five years of marriage, Fisher navigates a tumultuous journey as he adapts to a world he never imagined facing. He must now learn to balance the loss of his soulmate with his new life as a young, single, widowed father of a daughter with a rare disability. Fisher's trauma causes setbacks and he experiences moments of painful loneliness while raising a nonverbal child.

Fisher perseveres through years of grieving and ultimately discovers that the path home lies in embracing the moment, listening to his heart, and living out his true passions, including an improbably run for the United States Senate in one of modern history's most watched races.

## G.S. Police Golf Tourney March 4 at Peninsula

The 2nd Annual Gulf Shores Police Association Golf Scramble will be held on March 4 at Peninsula Golf Club in Gulf Shores. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m., and the tourney starts at 1 p.m. Cost is \$500 for 4-person team or \$125 for a single entry. The entry fee includes range balls, carts, lunch, hole contests, and team winner & door prizes. Call or email Julie Netemeyer at 314-482-9995 or julienetemeyer@yahoo.com or Sgt. Josh Hoguet at 251-968-4657 or jhoguet@gulfshoresal.gov for more info. Registrations can be dropped off at the Gulf Shores Police Dept. (220 Clubhouse Dr.) with checks for event or donations made out to G.S. Police Assn. Last year's tourney raised more than \$11,000 for the association's charities.



**G.S. & O.B. WRESTLERS REACH STATES:** The Gulf Shores High School wrestling team earned a spot in the AHSAA boys state wrestling tournament in Huntsville after placing fourth at the recent South Super Regional tournament. The team's 5A/6A state medalists included 6th place, 285lbs, Sam Schepker; 5th Place, 182lbs, Keeshon Siaoisi; and 3rd Place, 220lbs, Charlie Hollis. The Dolphins won the 5A-6A regional championship for the second consecutive year and dominated the Baldwin County championship, beating second place Spanish Fort by 71.5 points. The team's individual weight class winners at the Baldwin County Championship included: First place: Noah Guthrie (106 lbs.), Dathan Butt (113 lbs.), Lucas Salcedo (195 lbs.) and Charlie Hollis (220 lbs.); second place: Kyle Simmons (120 lbs.), Ethan Sharkey (126 lbs.), Taylor Cheek (138 lbs.), Jacob Killough (152 lbs.), Weston Reed (160 lbs.), Keeshon Siaoisi (182 lbs.) and Sam Schepker (285 lbs.); fourth place Nate Hunt (113 lbs.). (Right) Orange Beach High School's Shayd Arboreaux earned the school its first Class 1A-4A AHSAA wrestling medal in school history, bringing home the 4th place medal. Shayd competed at 120 lbs. The junior is also the Baldwin County champ in his weight class.

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING



### SBCT revises "Cancer Can Kiss My A\$\$" as a fundraiser March 5 festivities benefit Anchor Cross Cancer Foundation

By Fran Thompson

Of course, local playwright Laura Pfizenmayer was self reflecting when she wrote "Cancer Can Kiss My A\$\$." The story of one woman's battle and triumph over anal cancer is based on her own story.

After debuting at South Baldwin Theatre in Gulf Shores last April, the play was a featured zoom production at the International Center For Women's Playwrights and was also produced by The Merely Players Troupe in Atlanta.

"This is a play that has some legs. I hope to see it produced all over the country," Pfizenmayer said.

A special local revival of the play on March 5 will also serve as a fundraiser for the Anchor Cross Cancer Foundation, a community based not for profit foundation dedicated to cancer patient assistance, community education and providing hope to patients when all hope seems lost.

The evening will begin at 7 p.m. with heavy hors d'oeuvres provided by the Coastal Community College Culinary School. There will be cancer screening information available in the lobby, and Pfizenmayer's doctor at The Southern Cancer Center, W. Curry McEvoy, will introduce the production. The play will begin at 8 p.m., and desserts and coffee will be served at intermission. Tickets are \$40 per person, and all funds donated at the event, which includes a silent auction will go directly to Anchor Cross. (Info: sbct.biz) The play is also set for March 6 at 2 p.m. at SBCT.

"I am hoping we can help a lot of Baldwin County cancer patients, which is what Anchor Cross does," Pfizenmayer said. "They help patients pay the power bills or help with medicine or with rent. They are there to help, and it is a wonderful thing that all the money we raise will help them with that.

"If one person attending is induced to get a cancer screening than it will have been totally worthwhile," she added. "All the actors wanted to revive it because they wanted to see the play be put to good use."

Pfizenmayer said that in most productions dealing with cancer, the patient dies, even though most cancer patients survive.

"But this is a very uplifting look at cancer," she said. "Instead of people dying, they get to live. I was able to go through that experience and it does change you. One of the lines in the play is that it changes you on a cellular level. And it's true. This play is about not only living with it, but thriving with it and having a good life. As a playwright, my plan was to take what happened to me and put it to good use. To make it matter. That is why we all wanted to revise this."

Directed by Jan Hinnen, the cast includes (pictured with Pfizenmayer) Ann Gaynor, Mel Middlebrooks, Barbara Campbell, Steve Henry, Rio Cordy and Robert Gardner.

### Radio City Music Fest is Feb. 25-27 at SBCT

Using props & scenes from the golden age of radio, South Baldwin Community Theatre actors will recreate classic radio comedy and drama, complete with live sound effects, during the Fourth Annual Radio Theatre Festival scheduled Feb. 25-27.

For ticket info, visit [ci.ovationtix.com](http://ci.ovationtix.com) or [sbct.biz](http://sbct.biz) or call (251) 968-6721. The theatre is located at 2022 W 2nd St. in Gulf Shores.

Go back to a time when the good guys were good, the bad guys were bad, and the jokes had to be genuinely funny. Local actors will perform Gunsmoke and other plays live, just as they were performed back in the day.

You'll cheer when frontier justice prevails. You'll ride the edge of your seat as the intrigue builds. You'll laugh at a couple who can't go a single night without a fight. Finally, the audience will be taken back to the French Revolution, where they will find out if romance and courage can triumph in *The Scarlet Pimpernel*.

Other upcoming SBCT productions include a revival of *Cancer is a Pain in My A\$\$* March 5-6, the Young Artist production of *The Enchanted Bookshop* April 1-3 & 8-10, and *Picnic* on May 6-8 & 13-15. Tickets for all plays at the Gulf Shores theater are available at [sbct.biz](http://sbct.biz).

#### Enchanted Bookshop

In the Young Artist production of *The Enchanted Bookshop*, six of characters - Dorothy Gale, Robin Hood, Pollyanna, Sherlock Holmes, Heidi, and Tom Sawyer - from books on the shelves help Margie, the scatter-brained owner, save her struggling store. But they're not allowed to leave the building or be seen by human eyes. So when a pair of smugglers comes looking for a stolen necklace hidden inside one of the books, the characters are torn. Should they risk it and warn Margie?

- Brandon Giles: 6, Front Porch, Lillian.
- Mel Knapp: 5; Carvers Steakhouse, Orange Beach.
- Sanbar Olympics: 2; Bubba's Seafood; Orange Beach.
- Destiny Brown: 5; The Perch, Gulf State Park Lodge, Gulf Shores.
- Chase Brown: 1; Woodside Restaurant, Gulf State Park Lodge, Gulf Shores.
- White Bronco: 9; Sandshaker at the Wharf; Orange Beach.
- Bo Grant: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- John Brust: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- Stone Country: 6; American Legion Post 99, Foley.
- Kristi Dees & Bad Juju: 7; Hub Stacy's; Innerarity Point.
- The Defrosters: 2; Flying Harpoon II; Orange Beach.
- Karaoke: 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- Karaoke w. Howard: 7; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.
- Texas Hold 'em: 7; The Office, Foley.
- Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermen 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.

### SUN, FEB 27

- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; Perdido Key.
- Bends & Brews Yoga: 11 a.m.; in the courtyard; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf

- Shores.
- Three Bean Soup: noon; Tacky Jacks; Gulf Shores.
- Steve & Joe Piano Show: 3; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.
- Josh Newcom: 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's; Gulf Shores.
- Brittany Grimes: noon; Tin Top Restaurant; Bon Secour.
- Slater/Pace/Petty: 4; Front Porch, Lillian.
- Les Linton: 2; Tacky Jacks; Fort Morgan.
- Coconut Radio: 2; Sassy Bass Amazin' Grill; Fort Moran.
- Chase Brown: 1; Woodside Restaurant, Gulf State Park Lodge, Gulf Shores.
- Strictly Rivers: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Lisa Zanghi: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- The Defrosters: 2; Flying Harpoon II; Orange Beach.
- John Joiner & Friends: 4; Hub Stacy's; Innerarity Point.
- League Pool: 7; The Office, Foley.
- AA: 5 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

### MON, FEB 28

- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; Perdido Key.
- Flora-Bama Family Friendly Bingo: 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde: 1-4p.m.; The Beach House, Gulf Shores.
- Bama Beach Pickleball Club: 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).



### Local teens "Helping Hands" raises \$14,750 for child's medical expenses

Kaysheri Haffner and Bailey Oldhan, Gulf Shores Virtual School students, raised an astonishing \$14,750 through their Helping Hands non-profit, to help the family of Ankiha Valdez, with ongoing medical expenses. Ankiha (pictured), a 6-year-old sparkplug, is pictured with her father, Christopher Valdez, and the two girls at Big Beach Brewery, site of the fundraiser. Helping Hands is a non-profit created by kids to help other kids in the community who are truly in need. Its function is to help make life just a little easier for the families. The team has included as many as five students, but this year it is just Kaysheri and Bailey.

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## Community colleges offer incentives to consider hospitality jobs

By Fran Thompson

Students attending the Alabama Community College System across the state will have financial incentives to consider jobs in the hospitality industry thanks to a \$1 million in state funds allocated to prepare up to 2,000 students to earn online certifications for jobs in the state's \$16 billion hospitality industry. Gov. Ivey made the announcement at this past January's Governor's Conference on Tourism in Gulf Shores.

The Alabama Community College System is offering the course for free to Baldwin County applicants. Tuition without this grant would be \$500 per person.

Alabama Tourism Director Lee Sentell said Alabama is the first state to institute such a program. "We know tourism revenue makes an economic impact for Alabama, and that spending generates jobs in other sectors," he said. "This project has the potential to not only bring new professionals into our industry but to also create opportunities for Alabamians as a whole."

Gulf Shores-Orange Beach Tourism CEO Beth Gendler told those gathered for the Jan. 5 Governor's Conference on Tourism at The Lodge at Gulf State Park that, if short term accommodations already booked this spring are any indication, 2022 will mark another record year for tourism on the Alabama Gulf Coast. Tourism figures just through August of 2021 were higher than all of the prior record-setting year in 2019.

Taxable retail sales through August hit \$1 billion for the first time, a remarkable number considering the pandemic and the continued impact from September 2020's Hurricane Sally.

"Tourism down here on the Gulf Coast is a money-making machine," said Gov. Kay Ivey. "That's for the sure and it does go toward other places to help them have the benefits of hospitality in their area as well, so it's a win-win situation."

### Gateway Initiative

The Gateway Initiative – a coalition of local cities, businesses, Chambers of Commerce and the CVB, has a plan for a South Baldwin Workforce Training Campus that would provide much-needed housing for up to 2,000 seasonal workers, an education and training center, and even a childcare center. But least \$214 million would be needed to fund the project.

"South Baldwin continues to grow – both in terms of full-time residents and in guests who choose our area for vacations," said Gendler. "That growth is a blessing, but it also brings challenges we have to find solutions for. While our mission is visitor-focused, we are community inspired, it is our beach, our businesses, and our cities that make this such a great place to live and that make millions of people want to visit here. But we can't get the summer workers we need if there is no place for them to live."

- Brent Burns: 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's; Gulf Shores.
- The Royal Horses: 5; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.
- Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Open Mic with Chris Beverly: 6: OSO; Orange Beach.
- Open Mic w/Davo: 7; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- 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.; Island Church in Orange Beach; 251-967-4840.

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

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<b>THURSDAY-24</b>	<b>FRIDAY-25</b>	<b>SATURDAY-26</b>	<b>SUNDAY-27</b>	<b>MONDAY-28</b>	<b>TUESDAY-1</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY-2</b>
<b>Membership Night 6-9 PM</b> Members get first drink free! (Up to \$5 value)	<b>Military Night</b>	<b>Good Time &amp; Good Music</b>	<b>Service Industry Night 6 PM</b> Hospitality Industry gets free admission, 1st drink free (\$5 value), & employee prices	<b>Service Industry Night 6 PM</b> Hospitality Industry gets free admission, 1st drink free (\$5 value), & employee prices	<b>Service Industry Night 6 PM</b> Hospitality Industry gets free admission, 1st drink free (\$5 value), & employee prices	<b>Ladies' Night 6-9 PM</b> Ladies get first drink free (\$5 value)
<b>Main Room</b> 1:00 - J Hawkins Duo 5:00 - Mark Sherrill & Friends 9:15 - Wes Loper  <b>Dome Stage</b> 4:30 - Steve & Joe Piano Show  <b>Top Deck</b> 8:30 - Bruce Smelley  <b>Tent Stage</b> 1:00 - 4:00 Bingo w/ Sam	<b>Main Room</b> 11:00 - Lea Anne Creswell Duo 2:00 - Dalton Bush 6:00 - Scott Koehn Project 10:15 - Dew Pendleton  <b>Dome Stage</b> 1:00 - Mike Diamond 5:30 - Big Earl Show 10:00 - Patrick Cross Band  <b>Tent Stage</b> 1:00 - 4:00 Bingo w/ Sam 6:00 - Mario Mena 10:30 - Bruce Smelley Band	<b>Main Room</b> 11:00 - Johnny Barbato 2:00 - J Hawkins Duo 6:00 - Zachary Diedrich 10:15 - Brian Hill Duo  <b>Dome Stage</b> 1:00 - Johnny Hayes 5:30 - Big Earl Show 10:00 - Ryan Dyer Band  <b>Tent Stage</b> 2:00 - Dalton Bush Duo 6:00 - Chris Beverly Trio 10:30 - Everyday People Band	<b>Main Room</b> 1:30 - Rick Whaley & the Perdido Brothers 6:00 - Dalton Bush Duo 10:15 - Wes Loper  <b>Dome Stage</b> 1:00 - Anthony Oliver 5:30 - Al & Cathy 10:00 - Saucy Fuzz	<b>Main Room</b> 2:00 - Mike Diamond 6:00 - Open Mic w/Cathy Pace 10:15 - Petty & Pace  <b>Dome Stage</b> 5:30 - Patrick Cross 10:00 - Chris Beverly Experience  <b>Tent Stage</b> 1:00 - Bingo w/ Sam	<b>Main Room</b> 11:00 - Johnny Barbato 2:00 - T-Bone Montgomery 6:00 - Rick Whaley & the Perdido Brothers 10:15 - Brandon Blackburn  <b>Dome Stage</b> 11:00 - Bat 1:00 - Zachary Diedrich 5:30 - Dew Pendleton 10:00 - Bruce Smelley Band  <b>Tent Stage</b> 1:00 - Bingo w/ Sam	<b>Main Room</b> 2:00 - Neil Dover 6:00 - Rhonda Hart Duo 10:15 - Ryan Dyer  <b>Dome Stage</b> 5:30 - Brandon Blackburn 10:00 - Jesse Duncan Trio  <b>Tent Stage</b> 11:00 - Bat for Welcome Wednesday

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	<b>Main Room</b> 2:00 - J Hawkins Duo 6:00 - Mark Sherrill & Friends 10:15 - Kaleb King <b>Dome Stage</b> 12:00 - Ryan Dyer Duo 5:30 - Steve & Joe Piano Show 10:00 - Smokey Otis Band <b>Tent Stage</b> 8:00 - Jameson Rodger (Ticketed Show)	<b>Main Room</b> 12:00 - Les Anne Creswell Duo 3:00 - Isaac Moore 6:00 - Scott Koehn Project 10:15 - Mario Mena <b>Dome Stage</b> 1:00 - Trevor Finlay 5:30 - The Big Earl Show 10:00 - Jenna McClelland Band <b>Tent Stage</b> 1:00 - Bingo with Sam 6:00 - Unfortunate Sons 10:30 - Brian Hill Band <b>Beach Stage</b> 12:00 - Kristen Foreman 4:00 - Chris Beverly <b>Yacht Club</b> 6:00 - Kaleb King <b>Ole River Grill</b> 7:00 - Austin Bishop	<b>Main Room</b> 12:00 - J Hawkins Duo 4:00 - Kristen Foreman 7:00 - Brandon & Hannah 10:15 - Dew Pendleton <b>Dome Stage</b> 1:00 - Al & Cathy 5:30 - Steve & Joe w/ Mel Knpp 10:00 - Mario Mena Band <b>Tent Stage</b> 10:00 - Mike Diamond 2:00 - Kaleb King 6:00 - Royal Horses 10:30 - Everyday People Band <b>Beach Stage</b> 12:00 - Austin Bishop 4:00 - Justin Colvard <b>Yacht Club</b> 12:00 - Trevor Finlay 5:00 - Zachary Diedrich <b>Ole River Grill</b> 7:00 - Tony Brook	<b>Main Room</b> 1:30 - Rick Whaley & The Perdido Brothers 6:00 - Wes Loper 10:15 - Trevor Finlay <b>Dome Stage</b> 1:00 - Austin Bishop 5:30 - Knappy Ass Friends 10:00 - Patrick Cross Trio <b>Tent Stage</b> 2:00 - Brittany Grimes <b>Beach Stage</b> 12:00 - Mason Henderson <b>Yacht Club</b> 12:00 - Dew Pendleton 5:00 - Tony Brook <b>Ole River Grill</b> 2:00 - Kristen Foreman	<b>Main Room</b> 2:00 - Mike Diamond 6:00 - Open Mic w/ Cathy Pace 10:15 - Petty & Pace <b>Dome Stage</b> 5:30 - Tony Brook 10:00 - Jesse Duncan Trio <b>Tent Stage</b> 1:00 - 4:00 Bingo w/ Sam <b>Beach Stage</b> 12:00 - Mason Henderson	<b>Main Room</b> 2:00 - T-Bone Montgomery 6:00 - Rick Whaley & the Perdido Brothers 10:15 - Tim Roberts <b>Dome Stage</b> 5:30 - Jenna McClelland 10:00 - Saucy Fuzz <b>Tent Stage</b> 1:00 - 4:00 Bingo w/ Sam <b>Beach Stage</b> 12:00 - Brent Varner	<b>Main Room</b> 2:00 - Neil Dover 6:00 - Rhonda Hart Duo 10:15 - Willie Traywick <b>Dome Stage</b> 5:30 - Kyle Wilson 10:00 - Tyler Livingston & the Absoluties <b>Tent Stage</b> 1:00 - Bingo w/ Sam <b>Beach Stage</b> 12:00 - Jonathan Puzan

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING



### Pelicans have landed at Perdido Artist Gallery & Artworks

By Christina Steffen

The Pelicans have landed at Artworks Local Art & Gifts and Perdido Artist Gallery & Gifts. Starting February 15, stop by and place your bid and vote on your favorite Pelican. You could take home one of many Pelicans decorated by local artists. Winners will be notified after February 28. You can check your bid/vote on our website ([artworkslocalart.com](http://artworkslocalart.com) or [perdidoartistgallery.com](http://perdidoartistgallery.com)) or stop by Artworks and Perdido Gallery to see if you'll be the lucky winner! All funds raised go to the Wildlife Sanctuary, a nonprofit facility that cares and rescues indigenous animals in our area. Out of towners...we can ship! Artworks Local Art and Gifts is located in the Villagio Center, 13700 Perdido Key Dr. #124 Phone: 850-485-2507. Perdido Artist Gallery & Gifts 5660 Segura Dr. Phone: 850-332-6221.

### Gulf State Park Fishing Pier guided tours offered Fridays

Join naturalists from Gulf State Park as they for an exclusive guided tour of the park's landmark fishing pier every Friday through May from 9-10 a.m. Learn about the history of the pier and the park for the minimal cost of \$3 per vehicle to park at the pier for two hours and a \$2 sightseeing fee per person to walk on the pier. If you're an overnight guest at the Park, sightseeing is free. Meet at the picnic tables across from the tackle shop on the pier for the weather dependent tours. Gulf State Park Pier is located at 20800 E Beach Blvd. in Gulf Shores.

### G.S. sets new speed limits for Ft. Morgan Rd. & Hwy. 59

Over the next 30 days, the City of Gulf Shores will begin implementing new speed limits on Highway 59 and Fort Morgan Rd. Highway 59's new posted speed limit will be 45 mph from County Rd. 6 to West 1st St. from there to the Public Beach. The Fort Morgan Road new posted speed limit will be 35 mph from highway 59 to Regency Rd. and 45 mph from Regency Road to Peninsula Blvd.

### Beginner pickleball play days slated twice a week in G.S.

Each Thursday and Friday, from 1-4 p.m., the Bama Beach Pickleball Club offers a beginners' play day at the Church of Christ in Gulf Shores so newbies can come and play with each other and practice their games. Once they get proficient at playing, they can then move on to the regular play schedule at the church from 9 a.m.-noon Monday through Saturday. Come learn the fundamentals of the fastest growing sport in the USA. For mor info, call Sam Strite at [samcstrite@gmail.com](mailto:samcstrite@gmail.com) or 251-965-5122.

### Pro Golf Tour will stop at Kiva Dunes March 1-4

The Emerald Coast Golf Tour will kick off its 2022 season at Kiva Dunes Golf Club in Gulf Shores March



1-4. The tour will start its 2022 season in Gulf Shores at the beautiful Kiva Dunes Golf Club. The 54 hole event attracts players come from all over the country and begins with a kickoff party for professional players in the Kiva Dunes clubhouse on Tuesday night. A pro-am consisting of one professional and three amateurs will be played on March 2.

The Emerald Coast Tour is a developmental tour for guys trying to earn their PGA tour card or the Korn Ferry Tour card. Over 25 PGA tour winners have played on the tour. The Inaugural Kiva Dunes Pro Classic was shared by Hunter Stewart and Michael Hebert in 2017. Stewart was the winner again in 2018. Doug Barron won at Kiva Dunes in 2019 and went on to win his first event later in the year on the PGA Champions Tour. Michael Johnson of Birmingham is the defending champion.

Tour alums include Boo Weekley; Joe Durant; Heath Slocum; Craig Perks; Patton Kizzire; Jerry Kelly and two time Masters champion (pictured) Bubba Watson.

To play in the Pro Am contact Kiva Dunes at 251-540-7000 or Geno Celano at 850-217-3412. Sponsors and volunteers are also needed for the event. Admission is free and spectators are welcome. Additional information will on the Emerald Coast Tour website.

Tee times will begin at 9 a.m. on March 2. The following day's rounds include a pro-am, and the final round will begin at 8:30 on March 4, followed by the awards presentation.

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

- Square Dancing: 6:30; Fairhope Christian Church, Fairhope.

### TUE, MARCH 1

- Andy Andrews Live: 12:15; Andy Andrews General Store & Museum; The Wharf, Orange Beach.
- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; Perdido Key.
- Cowboy Blues Band: noon; The Angry

Crab, Orange Beach.

- Gypsy Pearl: 5; The Angry Crab, Orange Beach.
- Jezebels Chill'n: 5, Front Porch, Lillian.
- Grayson Capps & Corky Hughes: noon; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.
- Mardi Gras Post Party w. DJ Kelly: 3; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- Flora-Bama Family Friendly Bingo: 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING



### Fort Morgan Fishing Pier expected to open in early March

By David Rainer

For the first time in almost eight years, onshore anglers should have access to the great fishing on the lower end of Mobile Bay this spring when the new and improved Fort Morgan Pier opens. The renovated pier will be L-shaped with dimensions of 305 feet by 210 feet and 40 feet wide. The pier floor will be 8 feet off the surface of the water at mean tide. Actual construction on the pier started in July 2020, said Alabama Marine Resources Division Director Scott Bannon, but a variety of situations caused delays. "But I think we're on the downhill side. We anticipate an early March completion," Bannon said.

Bannon said the sheet pile work has been completed as well as a portion of the concrete caps that cover the sheet pile. The old retaining wall demolition work has also been completed.

The original pier was built with timbers and held up considerably well through its 40-year lifespan, but the double whammy of Hurricane Ivan in 2004 and Hurricane Katrina in 2005 took its toll. "It was pretty much rendered unsafe and had to be closed in 2014," Bannon said.

The total cost of design, construction and oversight of the new pier was \$3.2 million, and was paid for with Deepwater Horizon oil spill settlement money. The upgraded pier will serve dual purposes by providing a fishing venue and serving as a seawall for the adjacent boat ramp and basin.

The project includes steel sheet pile with a concrete platform, railings made of cables, handicap access points, more parking for anglers and boaters and a rebuilt boat ramp.

Bannon said the contractors were able to dredge the sedimentation from the boat basin, much of which was deposited during Hurricane Sally, and use that material to fill the pier instead of having to truck in fill material.

The good news for anglers is they will soon have access to the abundant inshore species that inhabit the mouth of Mobile Bay, including red drum (redfish), speckled trout and flounder. Rock material around the base of the pier will provide protection but also serves as fish habitat.

David Thornton, known as Pier Pounder on social media, is a dedicated pier and surf fisherman. He celebrates the reopening of the pier. "It's an element that has been missing for several years," he said. "It was a nice venue, especially when the Gulf beach was too rough. In the summer and fall, it's a good flounder spot. And people should catch lots of white trout and ground mullet and quite a few redfish. It's really neat it's coming back into play."

"This is about providing access to people who don't have boats," Bannon said. "We know access to water is limited, and this new pier is an iconic structure that we want to have back available to anglers. For that population that didn't have access to the water, I think this will soon become another destination spot much like the Gulf State Park Pier."

**Pictured:** The Fort Morgan Pier will be L-shaped and the concrete pad will be 8 feet off the water. The pier will also provide protection for the boat ramp and basin.



### Elberta's Jessi Dade wins Baldwin Co. Spelling Bee

Elberta Middle School 8th grader Jessi Dade recently won the Baldwin County Spelling Bee for the third time, having also earned the title in 2019 and 2020. She will advance to the March 26 State Championship and a chance to represent her state in the June 1-2 Scripps National Spelling Bee.

- Bama Beach Pickleball Club: 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
- Skyline Kings: 2; Bubba's Seafood; Orange Beach.
- Chris Beverly Experience: 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- Bingo/Karaoke: 6; Tacky Jacks; Gulf Shores.
- Bridge: 11:30 a.m.; Orange Beach Senior Center, 251-981-3440.
- Greg Brown: 2; Sassy Bass Amazin' Grill; Fort Morgan.
- Line Dancing: 6; American Legion Post 99, 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.
- Baldwin Senior Softball Group: 10 a.m.; 50 and over; 10 a.m.; call 225/313-8516 for info & location.
- GriefShare Support Group, 6; Point Church, 13801 Innerarity Point Rd, Pensacola; 601-278-6973.
- 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.

### WED, MARCH 2

- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; Perdido Key.
- Flora-Bama Family Friendly Bingo: 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- Kelly Poole: 6, Front Porch, Lillian.
- Melodious Allen & The Funkheads: 5; The Angry Crab, Orange Beach.
- Tyler Ward: 5; Carvers Steakhouse; Orange Beach.
- Danny Grady: 3:30; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Bingo w. Tim Roberts: 6; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.
- Bama Beach Pickleball Club: 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
- Karaoke: 7; Sassy Bass Amazin' Grill; Fort Morgan.
- Bingo: 6; Tacky Jacks; Orange Beach.
- John Brust: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- Mason Henderson's Saucy Fuzz: 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- Open Mic: 6; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
- Artie Hopkins: 5; American Legion Post 99, Foley.
- Gary Story & Friends: 7; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- 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-foot.com.



**LOCAL STUDENTS WILL HELP RESTORE GSP DUNES:** Students from Gulf Shores City Schools helped Dune Doctors and the Gulf State Park staff initiate coastal dunes by strategically placing recycled Christmas trees along the Gulf State Park and installing native dune-building vegetation around the trees Feb. 22-23. In addition to hands-on restoration, the event will include short classes as part of the Planting for Protection (P4P) event. Thirty-nine Gulf Shores High School and 7th-grade students were selected as P4P Mentors to lead 146 5th graders in installing 4,380 native dune-building plants. This event follows a lecture series taught by Gulf Shores High School teachers on preserving and protecting our coastal ecosystems. The Christmas trees capture wind-blown sand, the native vegetation will help retain that sand and accelerate the development of new coastal dunes that serve as the first line-of-defense against storm surge. **Pictured:** Local students assisting GSP officials restoring dunes with Christmas trees in 2021.

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING

- 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., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
- Food Ministry For Hungry Families: noon-1 p.m.; Grace Lutheran Church, corner of West 23rd Ave. and West 4th St. in Gulf Shores; 251-968-5991.
- Bread Ministry: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Orange Beach United Methodist Church Brook's Center.
- Food Bank: 9 - 11 a.m every Wednesday, Perdido Bay Baptist Church, 12600 Sorrento Rd. Pensacola; call for eligibility requirements at (850) 492-2604.
- Gulf Shores Garden Club: 9:30 a.m.; first Wednesday of each month September thru May; Gulf Shores Adult Activity Center; new members and guests always welcome.
- AA: Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
- AA: 7:30 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
- Al-Non: 12:30; Live Oak AFG, St John's Episcopal Church, 401 Live Oak Ave., Pensacola.

## THU, MARCH 3

- Andy Andrews Live: 12:15; Andy Andrews General Store & Museum;

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## Foley, Orange Beach & Gulf Shores Arbor Day giveaways Feb. 26

Gulf Shores, Orange Beach, Robertsdale and Foley – official tree cities all – will celebrate Arbor Day with tree giveaways in February. Communities that earn Tree City USA recognition not only have taken the time to meet strict standards, they know that trees improve the visual appeal of a neighborhood, reduce erosion, increase property values, reduce home cooling costs, remove air pollutants and provide wildlife habitat, among many other benefits. Fairhope, Magnolia Springs and Silverhill are also celebrating Arbor Day with tree giveaways.

### Gulf Shores

Gulf Shores will give away trees to residents on Saturday, February 26 from 8:30 - 10 a.m. at the Gulf Shores Elementary School, as a drive-through to provide a safe environment for all participants. Residents of each household that reside within the Gulf Shores corporate limits may select four different trees from six different varieties: Catalpa, Overcup Oak, Red Maple, Pecan, Hoptree – *Ptelea trifoliata* and Ashe Magnolia. Residents must show proof of residency. The trees are potted in one-gallon containers and are ready for planting. A brochure giving specifics on each tree is available to residents and the Gulf Shores Landscape Division will be onsite to answer questions about the trees. For more info, call 251-968-1166 or visit [gulfshoresal.gov](http://gulfshoresal.gov).

### Foley

Foley's 41st Annual Celebration of Arbor Day will be held at the Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermen's Market, located at 20733 Mifflin Road, at 1 p.m. on Feb. 26. The Alabama Forestry Commission, Baldwin County Master Gardeners and Certified Arborists will be on hand to answer any questions. Boy Scout Troop 77 will assist with distribution. The top winning posters will be on display from the Arbor Day Poster Contest. The Foley High School Air Force Junior ROTC will do the Presentation of Colors. There will be an assortment of trees in three gallon containers available, one per family please.

Live Oak Trees will be dedicated and planted in memory of three special people who loved Foley and made our city a better place because of the time they spent here: Mayor Arthur Holk, Coach Ivan Jones and Danny Younce.

### Robertsdale

Robertsdale's celebration begins at 9 a.m. on Feb. 26 in The HoneyBee Park pavillion, and at least a dozen varieties of trees will be available for free, and patrons can register for a door prize tree to be announced later. Patrons are not required to be Robertsdale residents, and after going through the line to pick up one tree, participants are welcome to get back in line to pick up additional trees until all trees have been distributed. For more info, call 251-947-8950.

### Orange Beach

The City of Orange Beach will observe Arbor Day with tree giveaways on Saturday, February 26 from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Trees will be given away in front of the Orange Beach Community Development building at 4101 Orange Beach Blvd. The potted trees that will be given away will consist of a variety of hardwoods for citizens to plant in their yards. There will be a limited quantity per resident, which is defined as those who live within the city limits of Orange Beach. For the city's part, it continues to meet the standards to be a Tree City USA community: it has a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation. Volunteers are needed. For more info, contact Woody Speed at 251-981-1062 or [wspeed@orangebeachal.gov](mailto:wspeed@orangebeachal.gov).

### Fairhope

Fairhope's The Arbor Day awards ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. on Feb. 26 under the Live Oak on Bancroft at the John Borom Science Building on the Coastal Alabama Community College campus. The Wisteria Garden Club, Boy Scout Troop #47 and local master gardeners will be assisting with the tree seedling giveaway set to begin after the ceremony and will continue until noon. Seedlings available this year will include the following: Red Maple, Pignut Hickory, Sugarberry, Parsley Haw, American Beech, Myrtle Oak, Baldcypress, Arrowwood and Winged Sumac.

### Magnolia Springs

Magnolia Springs will celebrate Arbor Day with a bare root tree giveaway, tree planting workshop and children's workshop on Feb. 26 from 9-11 a.m. at Magnolia Springs Fire Station, 14809 Gates Ave.

### Silverhill

Silverhill will celebrate its 32nd year as a Tree City with a tree giveaway on Friday, Feb. 25 beginning at 9 a.m. at the Silverhill Community Center, 1611 South Ave.



Seanna Howard creates fest artwork

Orange Beach High School freshman Seanna Howard created the artwork used for the 30th Annual Orange Beach Seafood Festival and Car Show T-shirts and posters. Seanna's art was showcased during the Feb. 19 fest.

The Wharf, Orange Beach.

- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; 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).
- Pensacola Jazz Collective: 5; The Angry Crab, Orange Beach.
- Katrina Kolb & Amanda Donald: 5; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.
- Brittany Grimes: 4; Carvers Steakhouse, Orange Beach.
- Brent Varner: 4; Woodside Rest. at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- Mel Knapp: 6; Hub Stacy's; Innerarity Point.
- William Gibson: 5; The Perch, Gulf State Park Lodge, Gulf Shores.
- Gary Story Open Mic: 6; Front Porch, Lillian.
- Bridge: 11:30 a.m.; Orange Beach Senior Center, 251-981-3440.
- John Brust: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- Karaoke w. Kelly: 8; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- Karaoke w. Howard: 6; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.
- Karaoke: 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- Tim Roberts: 6; The Tin Top Restaurant, Bon Secour.
- Kid Friendly Bingo: 6-8 p.m.; drinks & snacks available to purchase; Bear Point Civic Assn; Orange Beach.
- Bingo: 5; open to all; Amvets Post 2018; 13085 Wisconsin St.; Elberta.
- Shawn Lakey: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Texas Hold 'em: 7; The Office, Foley.
- Baldwin Senior Softball Group: 10 a.m.; 50 and over; 10.am.; call 225/313-

8516 for info & location.

- Gulf Shores United Methodist Church Bread Ministry: 9-10; every Thursday; room 103 on the south campus, next to Crossroad; 251 968-2411.
- Grief Support Group: noon-1:30 p.m.; First Presbyterian Church of Foley; 195 E. Berry Ave.; for all who are grieving; 943-8325.
- AA: Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.
- AA: 7 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

## FRI, MARCH 4

- Church United Methodist Fish Fry: 11-1; 915 N. Pine Street, Foley.
- Open Mic: 7; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; Perdido Key.
- Flora-Bama Family Friendly Bingo: 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- Guided Pier Walk: 9-10 a.m.; Gulf State Park Pier; Gulf Shores.
- Open Mic: 7; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
- Spicey Danger & The Electric Animals: 6; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.
- Savage: 5; The Angry Crab, Orange Beach.
- Darrell Quarls: 5; Carvers Steakhouse, Orange Beach.
- Destiny Brown: 4; Woodside Rest. at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- Six Piece Suits: 9; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- Donna Slater: 4; Front Porch, Lillian.
- Beachbillies: 6; Front Porch, Lillian.
- Chase Brown: 5; The Perch, Gulf State Park Lodge, Gulf Shores.
- Danny Grady: 3:30; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.

## Little Lagoon Preservation Society asks ADEM to delay issuing sewage treatment plant permit

### Baldwin County Sewer System (BCSS) upgrade will increase volume 65 percent at Fort Morgan Rd. facility

By Fran Thompson

The Little Lagoon Preservation Society has asked the AL Dept. of Environmental Management (ADEM) to hold off issuing a permit to the privately owned Baldwin County Sewer System (BCSS) that would allow a 65 percent increase in the volume of wastewater to be treated at its plant on Fort Morgan Rd. until a Mobile Bay National Estuary Program (MBNEP) study has been completed.

The 30 day comment period on the proposal ends Feb. 25, and the local environmental watch group has asked ADEM to extend that period and hold public meetings and/or wait for the results of the current study that will identify nutrient point sources, pathogens, and other harmful chemicals within the Little Lagoon watershed.

Considerable documentation of water quality within Little Lagoon spanning more than 14 years clearly indicates that Little Lagoon would benefit from no additional increases in the amount of permitted wastewater treatment at the Fort Morgan BCSS plant, according to LLPS president Dennis Hatfield.

Hatfield noted that the MBNEP data indicates a high nutrient zone exists in the area south of the BCSS plant, but it has yet to be determined if the WWTP effluent disposal ponds are a source of nutrients in Little Lagoon.

"We would, at a minimum, ask ADEM to hold off on approving the BCSS permit increase until the MBNEP study is completed so that the findings can be shared and made part of decision-making relative to BCSS' permit request," Hatfield said.

The BCSS plant, located about a quarter mile north of Brigadoon subdivision, is currently permitted to process a monthly average of 1.2 million gallons of sewage per day, including wastewater piped in from areas north of the Intracoastal Waterway. BCSS has applied for a permit to process up to two million gallons per day, according to LLPS documents.

Processed wastewater from the plant is placed in ponds where the treated water seeps into the subsurface water table and

flows towards the Lagoon.

"LLPS is most concerned about nutrient loading from the plant to Little Lagoon and its potential to cause harmful algal blooms amongst other things," Hatfield said. "Our Board believes this is a very important matter concerning the current and future health of Little Lagoon."

ADEM issued a 30 day notice for public comment on the application on Jan. 26. But the LLPS believes that past safety issues with BCSS warrant at least a public hearing before any permits are granted.

"Why has BCSS been allowed to exceed Biological Oxygen Demand in plant processed effluent numerous times and why have steps apparently not been taken to prevent recurrence? In July 2020, the plant exceeded the BOD limit in 1 of 4 required samples," Hatfield said. "In July 2021 it exceeded the BOD limit in 3 of 4 required samples. ADEM only contacted them about the 7/21 violation and the BCSS response was 'clarifier upsets for unknown reason.' They also responded with an 'n/a' for steps taken to prevent recurrence."

Hatfield also questions what percentage of the daily wastewater flow at the Ft. Morgan plant is coming from north of the Intracoastal Waterway and why that wastewater is not being treated at BCSS plants closer to its source.

He said his group also wants to know what other steps BCSS is taking to prepare for the rapid growth that is occurring in South Baldwin County.

"Are other treatment facilities being planned to accommodate that growth? The Fort Morgan plant has exceeded allowable ADEM limits on several occasions under the current permitted volume of wastewater to be treated at that facility. What modifications to the current facility are going to be made to avoid these past problems?" he asked. "If the current facility has chronic problems staying within its permitted standards, why should we believe that the Fort Morgan plant can successfully treat larger volumes of wastewater and stay within acceptable water quality standards?"

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**Fried Fish Boat: 12** Two hand battered fish fillets deep fried to a golden brown. Fries, hush puppies, & cole slaw.

**Tender Boat: 10** Two hand cut chicken tenders deep fried. Bubba's fresh cooked chips & potato salad.

**Salisbury Steak: 12** Grilled Salisbury steak with caramelized onions & mushroom gravy. Mashed potatoes, & steamed vegetables.

**Bubba's Triple 5 (Salad, Soup, & Sandwich): 11** Side salad with choice of dressing. Soup & Sandwich of the day. Ask server for details.

**Santa Fe Chicken Wrap: 11** Large flour tortilla toasted and filled with our special marinated chicken breast sautéed peppers & onion & cheese blend. Choice of 1 side.

**Bubba's Beach Tacos: 10** Two flour tortilla tacos. Grilled white fish topped with shredded lettuce, Jack & cheddar cheese blend. Choice: fried or grilled. (Blackened \$1 more) Topped with Bubba's Firecracker sauce & homemade Pico de Gallo.

**Grilled Mahi-Mahi: 15** Mahi-Mahi seasoned with Bubba's creole spices & grilled to perfection. Looking for a little more spice? Have it blackened for \$1 more. Choice of 2 sides.

**SIDES:** Cole Slaw, Tater Salad, Pinto Beans, Fried Okra, Sweet Corn, Gouda Grits, French Fries, New Potatoes, Garlic Smashed Potatoes, Home Fried Chips, Rice Grits.

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### PIER & SHORE FISHING OUTLOOK

By DAVID "THE PIERPOUNDER" THORNTON

Recently at least, there have been some signs of life in the cold, barren wasteland we refer to as the surfzone. The temperature of shallow coastal waters has languished in the upper 50s lately, which is a few degrees below average for late February. A warmer weather pattern would change that for the better as we move into March when we typically see the water begin rise back into the 60s. That would signal the beginning of more 'springlike' fishing patterns with more pompano, sheepshead, and redfish.

Sheepshead is likely still the best bet for shorebound anglers, as they are gathering in prespawn aggregations near the passes and bays before moving into the Gulf 'en masse'. That's when the fun really begins at the Gulf State Park Pier where dozens and even hundreds of these fat, feisty, tasty striped gamefish gather to mate and test the anglers' tackle. Schools meander around the pier in calm weather to begin courtship and spawning rituals, meanwhile proving sport to anglers inclined to bring home dinner.

Most fishermen use live shrimp on medium heavy tackle rigged with a Carolina rig presentation. At times though, these notoriously finicky bait thieves prefer crunching on fiddler crabs dangled around the pier piling. Occasionally the schools may lay near the bottom where a live ghost shrimp is supreme bait. You might also pick up an occasional pompano, redfish, or black drum with ghost shrimp or live Penaeid shrimp this way. And a few speckled trout might start showing up around the pier and gulf passes as the shallow water warms.

With warmer water and strong tidal flow expected through most of this fortnight, fishing opportunities should abound along the beaches as well. Pompano will be the most targeted species with longer rods and set rigs placed along sandbar drop-offs and cuts being the best locations. It pays dividends to scout the beach and move around to find spots where you can get your rigs into the feeding zones for these free ranging fish. As the water warms, more pompano begin moving into the surfzone and they too begin gathering into prespawn schools. Though far from

peak numbers, finding any kind of a pompano bite right now is another sure sign that spring has sprung along the coast.

Most surf anglers like the professionally tied double drop "pompano rigs" with beads or brightly colored floats near the hooks to get the attention of passing pompano. The hook is baited with an inch long piece of fresh shrimp, and/or Fishbites or Fishgum sold in local bait and tackle stores. These colorful synthetic baitstrips are designed to hang on the hook getting the attention of pompano or other gamefish and formulated to slowly dissolve in seawater. The scent (in several flavors) also helps draw pompano to your hook and further entice them to commit to biting. Just keep in mind that the total size of your bait presentation should not exceed the size of the mouth of the targeted fish. For pompano and other panfish with no teeth, this is no longer or bigger around than your index finger. In fact, a two-inch-long bait wad allows the pompano (or whiting) to inhale it all at once instead of repeatedly 'pecking' at a larger sized bait to break it into manageable pieces.

When the water is calm and clear the gaudier or heavier double drop rigs are often not as effective as a less visible presentation of thumbnail-sized pieces of dead shrimp or a beach ghost shrimp. These might be rigged on a Mortician rig, single drop rig or Fishfinder ("Carolina") rig. The last of these is the stealthiest of all presentations in calm clear water and puts the bait on the bottom where the fish expect to find it. A little slack created by the 12 to 15 inch long 10-to-20-pound test clear mono or fluorocarbon leader is just enough to allow the unsuspecting fish to pick the bait up in its mouth and move away for a couple of seconds before the line comes tight. As it does, the fish panics and darts away which allows the number 4 or 6 kahle hook or small circle hook to find the corner of the mouth.

Fishing success may be far from a sure thing this time of year, but it seems we are slowly moving away from the dreaded winter doldrums as we move into March.

In a slow current a free line presentation is often more effective, and certainly covers more water faster. Splitshot weights (one or two) affixed on the line about a foot or so above the hook are very effective for drifting live shrimp or fiddler crabs into the strike zone. Though an increasing number of sheepshead anglers like the Bottom Sweeper ("Knocker") and Free-Swinging style jigs. These are designed to move flat along the bottom while keeping the hook point facing up baited with a fiddler crab, or shrimp. It is a great presentation method for sheepshead staging on a sandy bottom, and offers great sensitivity of the light bite of a sheepshead.

- Shawn Lackey: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Darrell Roberts: 7; Stephi Cocktails / Cuisine; Orange Beach.
- John Brust: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- Guided Pier Walk: 9-10 a.m.; Gulf State Park Pier; Gulf Shores.
- Mid-Life Crisis: 7; Hub Stacy's; Innerarity Point.
- Bama Beach Pickleball Club: 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
- Karaoke w. Kelly Ann: 6; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- Open Mixed Doubles Tennis: 7:15 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center; corner of West 19th Ave. and West 2nd St.
- First Friday Art Walk: 7 p.m. til; historic downtown Fairhope.
- 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.
- T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly); weigh-in 9; meeting 9:30; Foley Sr. Center, 304 E. Rose Ave.; 251-979-1075.

### SAT, MARCH 5

- Ballyhoo Festival: 9-5; Lake Shelby at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- Model Train Show: 9-5; Via Community Center; Mobile.
- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; Perdido Key.
- Robin Crook: 6, Front Porch, Lillian.
- Karaoke w. Bree & David: 7; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
- Mel Knapp: 4; Woodside Rest. at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- Chris Hergenroder: 5; Carvers Steakhouse, Orange Beach.
- Fat Lip: 9; The Office; Foley.
- Six Piece Suits: 9; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- Mondaze: 5; The Angry Crab, Orange Beach.
- Destiny Brown: 5; The Perch, Gulf State Park Lodge, Gulf Shores.
- Coastal Fire: 7; Hub Stacy's; Innerarity Point.
- Karaoke w. Howard: 7; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.
- Delta Donnie: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Wiley Pete: 7; Stephi Cocktails-Cuisine; Orange Beach.
- Southern Star: 6; American Legion Post 99, Foley.



### Low tide after cold front best time to find ghost shrimp

By David Thornton

Though pieces of fresh dead or frozen shrimp are the most used baits, beach ghost shrimp are natural baits most commonly found throughout the surfzone. But they are often the most difficult to procure. Gathering ghost shrimp with a suction pump is exercise for anyone and an exercise in futility for many beginners. But once you become successful and learn what to look for, and where, and when it gets much easier. Low tide the mornings after a cold front is the best time to search the beaches for the tell-tale inch high mounds of these burrowing arthropods. They look like three-inch-long soft-shelled saltwater crayfish, and everything that swims in the surf zone loves to eat them. But they easily fly off the hook when casting, so securing them on the hook with a piece of Magic Thread is the best way. This thin, elastic thread is available at many of the coastal bait and tackle shops that carry surf fishing tackle and have sales associates who can assist you where to find it and how to use it.

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### COOKIN' WITH CAROLYN

BY CAROLYN GODFREY

#### Rotisserie Chicken Noodle Soup

2 Tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil  
 1 medium size (9 oz.) yellow onion, chopped (about 2 cups)  
 3 medium carrots, thinly sliced, (about 1 cup)  
 2 large celery stalks, chopped (about 1 cup)  
 2 large garlic cloves, minced (about 1 Tbsp.)  
 1 rotisserie chicken, skin and bones discarded, meat shredded (about 3-4 cups shredded chicken)  
 8 cups lower-sodium chicken broth  
 1 tsp. Italian seasoning  
 1/2 tsp. kosher salt  
 1/4 tsp. black pepper  
 2 cups uncooked wide egg noodles  
 Chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley  
 Heat oil in a large Dutch oven over medium-high. Add onion, carrots, celery, and garlic to Dutch oven; cook, stirring often, until vegetables are just soft, about 8 min. Stir in chicken, broth, Italian seasoning, salt, and pepper; bring to a boil. Reduce heat to medium, and gently boil 6 min. Add noodles to Dutch oven. Reduce heat to medium-low, and cook until noodles are tender, about 6 min. Garnish with chopped parsley. **Enjoy!**

### Chamber & GSHS host Feb. 24 community job fair

Gulf Shores High School and the Coastal Business Chamber will host its annual community career and job fair on Feb. 24, at the GSHS Athletics Center. The fair is open to the general public from noon 'til 2 p.m., while students will visit the fair from 9-11:30 a.m. The event is always a fun way to showcase your business to area students and local job seekers and is free to participate for both businesses and attendees. The Coastal Business Chamber is planning another job fair opportunity in the Orange Beach area later this year. Over 45 businesses have already committed. For more info, email Jessica Sampley at [jsampley@gsboe.org](mailto:jsampley@gsboe.org)

### Orange Beach monthly potluck slated March 7

**By Dianne McElroy**  
 Everyone is invited to bring a covered dish or dessert and join us for the



March 7 Orange Beach community potluck at the Orange Beach Community Center at 6

p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Dinner starts at 6:30 p.m. and a very short program will start at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited; just bring a side dish to share for 8 to 10 people.

As is tradition, a corn beef and cabbage dinner will be served. So green is the gathering's signature color this month. The Orange Beach Community Center is located at 27235 Canal Rd. If you are unable to bring anything, cost for the meal is \$5. Membership dues are \$13 for a single and \$25 for a family. We invite anyone to join the Orange Beach Community Association. We meet on the first Monday of each month at the Community Center at 6 p.m. from September thru May. I will look forward to seeing everyone.

- The Defrosters: 2; Flying Harpoon II; Orange Beach.
- John Brust: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- Karaoke: 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- 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 Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

### SUN, MARCH 6

- Ballyhoo Festival: 11-5; Lake Shelby at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- Model Train Show: 11-4; Via Community Center; Mobile.
- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; Perdido Key.
- The McNatts: 4; Front Porch, Lillian.
- Rollin In The Hay: 3; Big Beach Brew-

- ery; Gulf Shores.
- The Bill & Johnny Show: 5; The Angry Crab, Orange Beach.
- Kelly Poole: 5; Carvers Steakhouse, Orange Beach.
- David Stacey: noon; Tin Top Restaurant; Bon Secour.
- Justin Colvard: 2; Woodside Rest. at Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- Matt & Candy: 2; Sassy Bass Amazing Grill; Fort Morgan.
- Les Linton: noon; Tacky Jacks; Gulf Shores.
- Tim Robinson: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Bends & Brews Yoga: 11 a.m.; in the courtyard; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.
- Lisa Zanghi: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- The Defrosters: 2; Flying Harpoon II; Orange Beach.
- John Joiner & Friends: 4; Hub Stacy's; Innerarity Point.
- League Pool: 7; The Office, Foley.
- AA: 5 p.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

### MON, MARCH 7

- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible

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**GSHS HOOPSTERS WIN AREA 2 CHAMPIONSHIP:** The Gulf Shores High School Lady Dolphins Basketball team won the Class 6A Area 2 Championship vs. Baldwin County High School, earning the Dolphins their 4th area championship in a row. They also set a GSHS record for most regular season wins in school history, finishing the regular season at 21-7. Pictured: Top row (L to R) Maggie Myers, Anne Watts, Rayla Pierce, Kallyn McComb, Baylee Grace Taylor, Olivia Annan, Madison Dowling, Keyona Royal. Front row (L to R): MJ Lyons, Alyssa Thompson, Lissie McIntosh, Brailyn Gillis, Maya Griffin, Tristyn Baggett, Coach Brian Sexton.



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## WHAT'S HAPPENING



### Aldi Distribution Center will open this spring in Loxley Grocery chain's first local market will be on Blue Angel Pkwy.

**By Fran Thompson**

Grocery chain Aldi will hire 300 store associates and 200 warehouse employees to support its 564,000-square-foot regional distribution center in Loxley scheduled to open later this year. Ground was broken in February of last year.

A German company, Aldi is based domestically in Illinois. The chain ambitiously announced that it plans to open about 150 new stores and become the third-largest U.S. grocery retailer by the end of the year. That includes 100 new stores between Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and the Florida panhandle. The Loxley facility will be distribution headquarters for all 100 stores.

The supermarket will open on Rangeline Crossing Drive in Tillman's Corner and in Navarre, FL this week and 20 additional stores throughout the area by the end of 2022.

Two other Pensacola area stores are currently under construction for expected openings later this year. One will be located at 4830 Mobile Hwy. and the other at 2950 Blue Angel Pkwy. Aldi's Florida Panhandle expansion will also include a store in Pace. Site plans have already been approved for a parcel on U.S. 90 at Santa Rosa Commons.

The two other Mobile stores will be at Airport Boulevard near Interstate 65 and Schillinger Road just north of Hitt Road. The Airport Blvd. location was previously leased to Babies R Us.

The chain has already purchased a seven-acre parcel in Fairhope just north of the Wal-Mart on Hwy. 181 and purchased land for future store locations in Daphne, Spanish Fort and Foley.

The Daphne location would be near 98 and Whispering Pines, the Foley location at the old Ryan's on McKenzie Street and the Spanish Fort location at Highway 31 and 81, according to Lee Lawson with the Baldwin County Economic Development Alliance.

Construction has not started on any of the Baldwin County sites. The company opened its first Louisiana store (Lafayette) on Feb. 10. Plans have, at least temporarily, been put on hold for an Aldi retail store on North Davis Hwy. in Pensacola, according to Aldi Loxley Division Vice President Heather Moore.

**Pictured:** (Rendering) Typical Aldi stores are about 20,440-sq.-ft.

### O.B. adds March 5 & 19 for golf cart inspections

The Orange Beach Police Department has added two more golf cart inspection dates - Saturday, March 5 and Saturday, March 19 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Orange Beach City Hall, in the front parking lot. More than 600 permits have been issued.

Effective March 1, all golf carts in the city will require permits to operate on designated city streets. The first few weeks will be an education period for golf cart owners in the city, with warnings being issued.

Orange Beach City Hall is located at 4099 Orange Beach Blvd. If one of the inspection requirements is not met, the cart will fail and no permit will be issued. Every golf cart owner must present a valid driver's license, proof of insurance and have all of the needed equipment upgrades.

If all items pass inspection, a fee of \$75 will be collected on site (cash, check or credit card) and two permit decals will be issued to be placed on each side of the cart as specified in the ordinance. Permits will be valid for three years.

For questions or additional information, contact Sgt. Joey Brown at 251-923-5805 or jbrown@orange-beachal.gov.

### Riley Green adds Travis Tritt, Frank Foster for his O.B. shows

Alabama's country music star Riley Green will bring amazing special guests with him to Orange Beach when he plays March 11-12 at The Wharf Amphitheater. One of the world's elite guitar players, Travis Tritt, and Frank Foster will open on the first night, while John Michael Montgomery and Colt Ford will play the second night w. Green, the Jacksonville native and the 2019 Academy of Country Music new male artist of the year. Ticket prices range from \$39.50 to \$79.50 plus fees and are available at ticketmaster and the Wharf box office.

Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; Perdido Key.

- Flora-Bama Family Friendly Bingo: 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde: 1-4p.m.; The Beach House, Gulf Shores.
- Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Open Mic w/Davo: 7; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- Bingo: 10-2; Gulf Coast Elks Lodge; Foley.
- Bingo: 6; American Legion Post 99, 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.; Island Church in Orange Beach; 251-967-4840.
- Overeaters Anonymous: 6; Holy Spirit Episcopal Church; Gulf Shores, 616 Ft. Morgan Rd.; 251-709-5907.
- 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.
- Square Dancing: 6:30; Fairhope Christian Church, Fairhope.

### TUE, MARCH 8

- Ancient Aviators Meeting: 8:30; American Legion Post 44; Gulf Shores; all are

welcome; 251-990-8258.

- Rhonda Hart: 5; Front Porch, Lillian.
- Rhonda Hart & Elaine Petty: 5; Front Porch, Lillian.
- Book signing with local author Jason Fisher; 6 p.m.; Orange Beach Adult Activity Center.
- Andy Andrews Live: 12:15; Andy Andrews General Store & Museum; The Wharf, Orange Beach.
- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; 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).
- Greg Brown: 5; Sassy Bass Amazin' Grill; Fort Morgan.
- Bingo/Karaoke: 6; Tacky Jacks; Gulf Shores.
- Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Chris Beverly Experience: 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- Karaoke w. Kelly: 8; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- Bridge: 11:30 a.m.; Orange Beach Senior Center, 251-981-3440.
- Bingo: 10-2; Gulf Coast Elks Lodge; Foley.
- JW Karaoke: 6; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- Texas Hold 'em: 7; The Office, Foley.
- Baldwin Senior Softball Group: 10 a.m.; 50 and over; 10 a.m.; call 225/313-8516 for info & location.



### CRAFT FARM LADIES GOLF ASSN. SUPPORTS GSHS TEAM:

Two Board Members from the Cotton Creek Ladies Golf Association (CCLGA) met with Coach Jacob Sparkman and the Golf Shores Girls Golf Team presented a \$1,200 check to the team which was donated from their Pennies for Putts fund. This fund was set up to promote the love of golf in these young ladies and to help them with their supplies and expenses. The fund starts out with spare change put into the collection jug, but by the time it is presented to the school, it has grown with some very generous contributions. The CCLGA also donated over 32 used golf clubs which were very appreciated. Gigi Roberts, president, and Cynthia McDermond, vice-president, are pictured with Coach Sparkman and the team.



**SBCC RECOGNIZES MEMBERS:** The South Baldwin Chamber recently recognized TramTail LLC and Planet Fitness with Business of the Month awards. Ram Tail is a leading provider of cable rail designs that enhance the appeal of outdoor areas, including decks, balconies, gardens, and walkways. Foley's Planet Fitness is a gym that is a non-intimidating, welcoming environment fostering a sense of community among all members and encourages them to work toward their health and fitness goals, no matter how big or how small. **Pictured:** (left) Ram Tail's Kevin Berland (Owner), Paris Debow, Dax Smith; (right) Planet Fitness in Foley team members Ken Waller (Member, Mr. Universe 1975), John Cook (Club Manager), Roderick Tate (Member Services) and Kim Cooper (Asst. Manager).

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FEBRUARY

## WHAT'S HAPPENING



**NEW HOME FOR BALDWIN ANIMAL SHELTER:** The Baldwin County Commission recently participated in a groundbreaking ceremony for the new, state-of-the-art Baldwin County Animal Shelter Intake Building in Summerdale (15240 County Road 49). The new shelter will, in addition to providing excellent animal care, encourage adoptions. Rolin Construction was awarded the bid for project in the total amount of \$4,729,000. Construction scheduled for completion in late spring 2023. "We needed to have better facilities for our animals," Commissioner Billy Jo Underwood said about the 14,000 sq. ft. state-of-the-art facility. "I love animals," she added. "I believe God put animals here to help us and so that is something we need to do is help look after our fur-babies." The new facility is designed to allow for expansion later.



**STUDENT ARTISTS EARN STATE RECOGNITION:** Baldwin County Public Schools had three art students receive recognition in the Superintendent's Visual Art Show. John Mellow, a 4th grade student at J. Larry Newton received an Honorable Mention Award in the elementary division. In the middle school division, Elberta Middle School 8th grade student Alyssa Morrow placed 3rd and Foley Middle School student Fynnegan Stanford was awarded the 1st place award. The students artwork will hang for one month at the Old Supreme Court Library of the Alabama State Capitol and students will be invited to attend an awards ceremony at the Shakespeare Festival in Montgomery. Congratulations John, Alyssa, and Fynnegan!

### Office hosts Feb. 26 pool Adeline Schneider benefit

The Office Lounge in Foley will host a Feb. 26 benefit 9-ball pool tournament to help raise money for the Schneider Family Medical Fund. Sign-ups start at 11 a.m. and a day of activities are planned. Adeline Schneider was born November 5, 2021 with many complications. At three days old, she was having surgery to attach her stomach and esophagus. From there she was airlifted to Birmingham and put on a feeding tube due to aspiration issues. She also has four heart defects, including Tetralogy of Fallot and Pulmonary Stenosis. Adeline will undergo open heart surgery at 4-6 months of age at Children's Hospital of Alabama in Birmingham.

She was also recently diagnosed with Vacteral Syndrome. The daughter of Andy Schneider and Samantha Smith needs help and The close knit Office staff and patrons want to do just that. The Office Lounge is located at 122 Co. Rd. 20 West. For more info, call 251-970-0043.

- GriefShare Support Group, 6; Point Church, 13801 Innerarity Point Rd, Pensacola; 601-278-6973.
- Orange Beach City Council Meeting: 5 p.m.; City Hall; 980-INFO.
- Overcomers Outreach: 7 p.m.; First Baptist Church of Orange Beach; 980-1705.
- Foley Kiwanis Club: noon; Vallarta's, 1145 S. McKenzie St., Foley; 859-771-6091.
- Foley Lions Club: noon; Wolf Bay Lodge, Foley.
- AA: Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

### WED, MARCH 9

- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; 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).
- Tyler Ward: 5; Carvers Steakhouse, Orange Beach.
- Cowboy Blues Band: 5; The Angry Crab, Orange Beach.
- Bingo w. Tim Roberts: 6; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.
- Karaoke: 7; Sassy Bass Amazin' Grill; Fort Morgan.
- T-Bone Montgomery: 6; Front Porch, Lillian.
- Mel Knapp: 5; Carvers Steakhouse, Orange Beach.
- Danny Grady: 3:30; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.

- Bingo: 6; Tacky Jacks; Orange Beach.
- John Brust: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- Open Mic: 6; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
- Mason Henderson's Saucy Fuzz: 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- Gary Story & Friends: 8; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- Tim Richardson: 5; American Legion Post 99, Foley.
- Karaoke: 7; Bar 45 at ONE CLUB, Gulf Shores.
- John Joiner & Darrel Roberts: 7; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- Bingo: 10 a.m.; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- BBRC Running Club: 5:30 p.m.; Big Beach Brewery in Gulf Shores; lafleet-foot.com.
- Karaoke & League Pool: 7:30; The Office, Foley.
- Open Mixed Doubles Tennis: 7:15 a.m.; all levels welcome; Gulf Shores Tennis Center.
- Orange Beach Friends of the Library: 10; Library meeting room; 978-4106.
- 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.
- Food Ministry For Hungry Families: noon-1 p.m.; Grace Lutheran Church, corner of West 23rd Ave. and West 4th St. in Gulf Shores; 251-968-5991.
- Bread Ministry: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Orange Beach United Methodist Church Brook's Center.
- Food Bank: 9 - 11 a.m every Wednesday, Perdido Bay Baptist Church, 12600 Sorrento Rd. Pensacola; call for eligibility requirements at (850) 492-2604.

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# Funny Bones

By Ron "Bones" Jones



Studies have shown that Super Bowl Monday is one of the least productive workdays. I was going to do a joke on that, but I couldn't come up with one."

A priest, a pastor and a rabbit walk into a blood donation clinic.

"What is your blood type," the nurse asked the rabbit. "I'm probably a Type O,"

replied the rabbit.

I went by the house I grew up in and asked if I could go in and look around.

They said no and slammed the door in my face!

Parents can be real jerks.

It was my wife's birthday and she rang me to see what time I would be home.

"Can't talk," I said, "I'm driving."

"Where are you?" she asked. She wasn't happy when I said the 7th tee.

Atheism must be from a non-prophet organization. (correction).

Wife: Did I get fat during quarantine?

Husband: You were not skinny to begin with.

Time of death: 12:01 p.m.

Cause: Covid.

The road of life is paved with flat squirrels who could not make a decision.

Friend: "Sweet outhouse. But you are out of toilet paper."

Me: "That's because it is my fishing shack."

"Do you love me with all your heart and soul?" asked Becky on Valentines Day.

"Mmm hmm," replied Dave.

"Do you think I'm the most beautiful girl in the world?"

"Mmm hmm."

"Do you think my lips are like rose petals?"

"Mmm hmm."

"Oh Dave. You say the most beautiful things!"

Ironic don't you think? Hyphenated. Non-hyphenated.

I asked a supermarket worker where they kept the canned peaches. He said, "I'll see" and walked away.

He never came back. When I saw another supermarket worker, I asked him. He said, "I'll see" and walked away. He never came back either.

I got tired of waiting and started looking up and down every aisle. I finally found them.

They were in Aisle C.

A guy walks into a lumberyard and asks the clerk for some two by fours.

The clerk asks, "how long do you need them?"

The guys answers, "A long time. We are building a house."

A woman is getting on a bus when, just in front of her, a man gets up from his seat. She thinks to herself, "Here's another man trying to keep up the customs of a patriarchal society by offering a 'poor, defenseless woman' his seat."

She pushes him back onto the seat. A few minutes later, the man tries to get up again. Again, she refuses to let him up.

Finally, the man says, "Look, you've got to let me get up. I'm two miles past my stop already."

A co-worker asked me, "Could you be any more annoying?"

So the next day I wore tap shoes to work.

"Doctor, doctor! My husband swallowed a dozen aspirin. What should I do?"

"Is he acting any differently?" asks the doctor.

"No," says the wife. "But I'm so scared. All that aspirin. Shouldn't I do something?"

"Try giving him a headache," says the doctor.

The DA stared at the jury, unable to believe the "not guilty" verdict he'd just heard. Bitterly, he asked, "What possible excuse could you have for acquitting this man?"

The foreman answered, "Insanity."

The attorney responded, still incredulous, "I could understand that. But, all twelve of you?"

I found the meaning of life. It's on page 937 in the dictionary between the words lie and lifeboat.

Billy: I think we've over-trained our dog! Look at him—he's a nervous wreck.

Wanda: Why not take him to a pet psychiatrist?

Billy: We can't. One of the things we've trained him not to do is go on the couch!

Dad, are we pyromaniacs? Yes, we arson.

What do you call a pig with laryngitis? Disgruntled.

Writing my name in cursive is my signature move.

Why do bees stay in their hives during winter? 'Swarm.

Just so everyone's clear, I'm going to put my glasses on.

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# SNOWBIRD NEWS

## Iowa

By Amos Glanz

The Iowa Snowbird Club invites its members and their guests to attend its last breakfast meeting on Wed., Mar. 9 at 8:30am at OSO Early, 27370 Canal Road, Orange Beach. This breakfast will be informal. The breakfast cost will be \$15 per person. Reservations are required and can be made on the website, [iowasnowbirdclub.com](http://iowasnowbirdclub.com) or by texting/calling Chris or Steve Hedlund at 319-430-4597. The Club's last Cocktail Party will be held on Fri., Feb. 25 at The Caribe, 28103 Perdido Beach Blvd., Bldg D, Orange Beach, 5-7pm. Be sure you park only in unnumbered parking spaces. NO reservations required. Bring a dish to share and your own beverages. Many door prizes will be distributed.

## Snowbird Euchre

Snowbird Euchre: Wednesday play starts at 6 p.m. Gulf Shores American Legion Post 44. Thursday play starts at 1 p.m. Gulf Shores American Legion Post 44.

## Missouri Snowbirds

By: Mark Rethemeyer

The activities of the Missouri Snowbird Club of Alabama are open to every Snowbird regardless of where you are from. Join us for breakfast every Wednesday at the Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach. Arrive around 8:30 and we have a great buffet breakfast at 9:00 for \$10 per person (plus tax and tip). Join us for Happy Hour on Mondays at 4 at Cobalt's, the Restaurant just over the Perdido Bay Bridge. We'll be in the Banquet Room. Enjoy Happy Hour food and drink specials, and a great opportunity to meet other friendly people. Questions? email: [mer2@charter.net](mailto:mer2@charter.net). Check our website for all our activities: [mosnowbirds.org](http://mosnowbirds.org). Check us out on Facebook.

## Michigan Snowbird Golf

By Dave Ferguson

While the Michigan Club will not be meeting this Winter, we still have golf outings. Our golf schedule can be found at the Michigan Club website ([michigan-clubalabama.com](http://michigan-clubalabama.com)). This year we are again welcoming all snowbirds from all the snowbird clubs to join our golf outings. Our final four of golf outings and contacts are as follows: 2/28/22 at Rock Creek, Sheri Plumley 231-690-2686; 3/2/22 at Timber Creek, John McIntyre 989-392-5190; 3/7/22 at Peninsula, Nancy Grebe 586-295-4345; and 3/9/22 at Gulf Shores, Mary Rossi 586-295-4449. Ladies golf is Tuesday, weather permitting, at Gulf Links Golf Center on 59. We will

## Dakotas Snowbird Club

By Joyce Anderson

Dakotas Snowbird Club is scheduled to meet Feb. March 8, at 8:30 a.m. for breakfast with a 9 a.m. program at Luna's Magnolia Hall in Orange Beach. The club may also plan several social activities to be determined at a later date. For more information please contact Joyce Anderson at 605-351-0274 and leave a message for a return call.

## Cribbage Fridays at Post 44

Beginning Friday, Jan. 14, Cribbage players will be gathering to play Cribbage every Friday. Sign up starts at 12:30 p.m. and play begins at 1 p.m. at the Gulf Shores American Legion, Post 44, 6781 AL-59. Cost is \$5. For additional information contact Barbara Beamish at 989-464-8605. All Cribbage players are welcome!

## Mt. Dulcimer Players

Mt Dulcimer Players meet until the beginning of March, Mon 10-11:30 a.m., Wed 2-3:30 p.m., St Andrew by the Sea, 17263 Fort Morgan Road, Gulf Shores. Questions? Michelle 317-446-0500.

## Gulf Shores Senior Softball

By John McCabe

For the past 20 years local seniors have welcomed snowbirds to join us on our manicured diamonds in Gulf Shores and Orange Beach. Our players are all over 50 years old. We welcome females as well. We generally meet Mondays and Fridays in the morning at either the Gulf Shores Sportsplex or Orange Beach Sportsplex. The location depends upon field availability. Info: 251-981-9787.

## Minnesota

By Nancy Pofel

The Minnesota Snowbird Club is hosting a weekly breakfast at GT's On The Bay located on 26189 Canal Road, Orange Beach thru March 8 at 8 a.m. Registration is required one week prior to the event. Click on the Breakfast Sign-up tab on our homepage at [mna.org](http://mna.org). There is a minimum and maximum requirement. Best value breakfast in town. Keep abreast of 2022 activities at [mna.org](http://mna.org) or [facebook.com search @mnaclub](https://www.facebook.com/mnaclub).

## New York

By Frank Panczyszyn

The New York Snowbirds will gather again at Ginny Lane on March 10, gathering and registering at 11 a.m., followed by lunch. Reservations are required by email to [nysnowbirds@gmail.com](mailto:nysnowbirds@gmail.com).



**FOLKS ON SPOKES & IOWA HOST FOOD DRIVE:** Folks on Spokes, a bicycle riding group, and the Iowa Snowbird Club held their 2nd Annual Food Drive for the Christian Service Center on February 11 and 12 at the Gulf State Park Campground. The park entrance fee was waived for those bringing food donations. The 2022 totals are approximately 2,500 pounds of food and \$831 in cash for the Food Pantry. The Christian Service Center is a nonprofit, all volunteer agency that provides food and emergency aid to families in need in Gulf Shores, Orange Beach, and Ft. Morgan. The Center is located at 317 Dolphin Ave., Gulf Shores 36542; 251-968-5256; [csccenter1991@gmail.com](mailto:csccenter1991@gmail.com); [cscgs.com](http://cscgs.com). **Pictured:** Rusty and Karen Robbins, Steve Benda, Jim and Lynn Burns and Mary and Scott Maki.

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# PICTURES OF THE WEEK



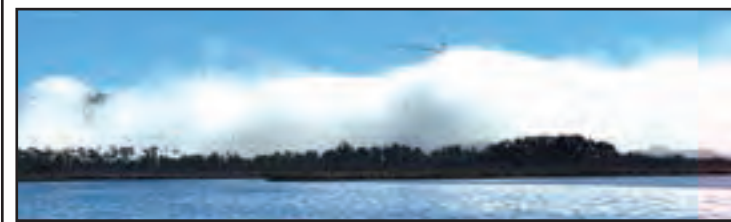
Bob Schraufnagel from Brown Deer WI shares a picture of a baby gator resting upon its mama.



From Sheila Wink.



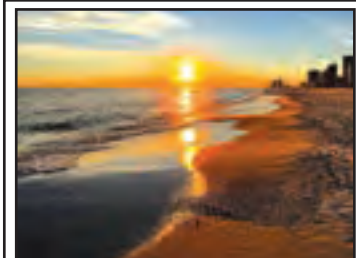
"Birds of a feather," writes Jane Sullivan of Morton, IL.



Interesting cloud cover behind Lake Shelby from Brent McNabb.



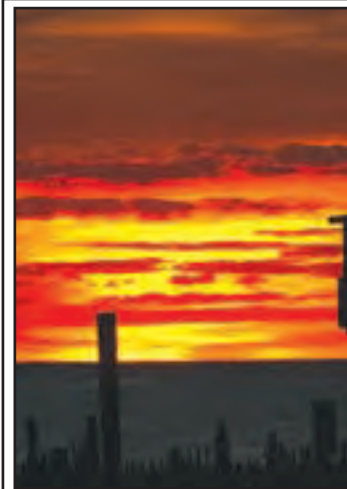
Michigan's Laurie Kipp shares a sunset pic from Phoenix West.



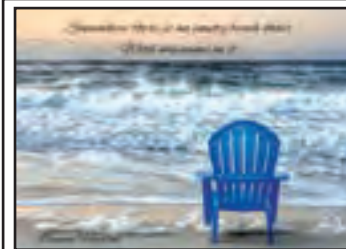
Submitted by Alexandra Ward.



Submitted by Shar Eckard of Okobojo, Iowa.



"I couldn't have asked for a better sunset," writes Margarita Lannon.



A fine sentiment from Bunny Harlow.



Phillip Thomas shares pics of an approaching storm and a heron "looking for Blue Angels."



Gary Gonigam from Lake Camelot, IL shares sun & moon shots.



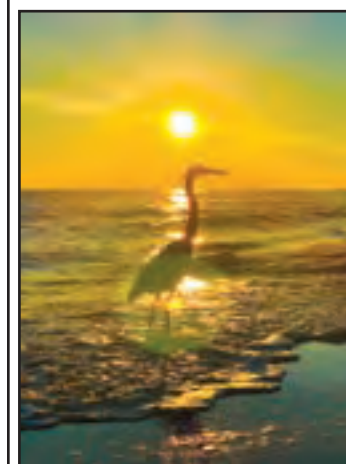
Ken Groezinger shares pics of a "Green Heron," and "my Osprey buddy."



Valerie Swartz shares two wonderful beachcombing treasures.



From Crystal Bernot.



"Fred striking an awesome pose at sunset," writes Kathy Fosterling.

**LOCALLY OWNED**



**Seafood Specialties**

*(Served with your choice of two side dishes)*

- Stuffed Shrimp** - bacon wrapped, baked w/crabmeat dressing & Monterey jack cheese ..... **21.99**
- Shrimp Scampi** - sauteed in garlic, mushrooms, scampi butter w/Fettuccine Alfredo. Served with one side ..... **25.99**
- \*\*Blackened Catfish** - two delicate filets, sprinkled with Cajun seasonings and lightly seared ..... **21.99**
- Coconut Shrimp** - dipped in beer batter, rolled in coconut flake and flash fried ..... **20.99**
- \*\*Grilled Skewer Shrimp** - basted w/butter & served over yellow rice ..... **20.99**
- Shrimp Creole** - Stewed tomato, sweet peppers, celery, onion, and flavored w/ sausage over yellow rice. Served with one side dish ..... **20.99**
- Crawfish Etouffee'** ..... Served with one side dish ..... **20.99**  
White onions, sweet bell peppers, and celery simmered in a spicy Cajun roux over yellow rice.
- Crab Cake Dinner** - 3 Southern style lump crab cakes, fried and sprinkled with parmesan cheese ..... **21.99**

**Home-Style Lunch Specials**

*(Served with your choice of two side dishes)*

- Fried Shrimp** - tail-less ..... **10.00**
- Blackened Catfish** - dusted w/Creole spices & lightly seared ..... **10.00**
- Fried Catfish** - corn meal battered ..... **10.00**
- Broiled Flounder** - broiled in butter & topped with roasted almonds ..... **10.00**
- Fried Flounder** - lighty battered and fried golden brown ..... **10.00**
- Grilled Chicken** - with a light touch of Greek seasonings ..... **10.00**
- Chicken Creole** - smothered in a spicy tomato & vegetable sauce. Served on yellow rice ..... **10.00**
- Fried Chicken Tenders** - butter-dipped tenders, beer-fried. Served w/ honey mustard ..... **10.00**
- Country Fried Steak** - served w/ cream gravy ..... **10.00**
- Hamburger Steak** - (5 oz) char-grilled & served w/ tomato gravy ..... **10.00**
- Pork Chops** - two tender chops grilled or fried ..... **10.00**
- Country Ham** - char-grilled ..... **10.00**
- Vegetable Plate** - your choice of four (4) side dishes ..... **9.50**

**Senior's Menu**

*(Reserved for 55 & over)*

*Served with your choice of two side dishes & iced tea*

*(SPLIT PLATE CHARGE \$ 2.00)*

- Coconut Shrimp** with spicy orange marmalade ..... **15.99**
- Stuffed Shrimp** ..... **15.99**  
bacon wrapped, stuffed with crabmeat dressing & monterey jack cheese
- Fried Shrimp** tail-less ..... **11.99**
- Grilled Shrimp** over yellow rice ..... **13.99**
- Fried Oysters** with cocktail sauce ..... **17.99**
- Fried Seafood Platter** shrimp, oysters, flounder, crab claws ..... **18.99**
- Broiled Seafood Platter** shrimp, scallops, flounder almondine ..... **16.99**
- Fried Chicken Tenders** with honey-mustard ..... **10.99**
- Grilled Chicken Breast** with a light touch of lemon-herb oil ..... **11.99**
- Yellow-Fin Tuna** grilled or blackened ..... **14.99**
- Trigger** grilled, fried, blackened or broiled almondine ..... **14.99**
- Flounder** fried or broiled almondine ..... **11.99**
- Grouper** grilled, blackened, broiled almondine or fried ..... **14.99**

**Side Dishes**

- Sweet Potato Casserole
- Steamed Vegetables
- Fried Green Tomatoes
- Cole Slaw
- French Fries
- Hush Puppies
- Baked Potato
- Yellow Rice

Substitute House or Caesar Salad for a Side Dish - Add \$2.75

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Wednesday: Chicken & Dumplings 2 Sides

Thursday: Beef Tips over White Rice 2 Sides

Friday : Chef's Special

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## FOR SALE

### THE GROVE

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

## FOR RENT

### RV SITES BY BIG LAGOON

2 RV sites for rent 4 blocks from Big Lagoon State Park. Seasonal rates available weekly and monthly. 30 amp electrical service, water and trash included. 850-261-1492. (3/20)

### SENIORS-1BR

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### OFFICE SPACE

Office Space - Mini office space for rent with shared waiting room, break area, & restroom. WIFI available. 2nd floor prime business location on Canal Road in Orange Beach, AL 251-747-9819

### FOLEY STUDIO

Foley - Studio Apt for Seniors - In town, No smoking. Stable income required. All utilities included. 55+ only. No pets. Text 251-752-0381.

### RV LOT

RV lot. All utilities are included. \$450 per month. 251-586-1772

### OFFICE/SHOP/CAFE

Office - cafe - shop for lease in Gulf Shores. Upscale location; Text Alla at 251-923-6475; Ryals Realty.

### OFFICE SPACE

Class A Office Space for Lease. Gulf Shores Commercial Park. Available Soon: Text 251-FOR-RENT.

## MISCELLANEOUS

### CKC GOLDENDOODLES

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### PONTOON & BOAT OWNERS

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### SCREEN REPAIR

We repair and replace damaged and loose screen. No job too big or small, specializing in screen pool enclosures. Licensed and insured, all services performed by local Gulf Coast Veterans. Please call 251-609-0996. (5/25)

### PERSONAL TRAINER

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### 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; Paint & Wine Class by request; Call for more info; Talis 850-261-9617.

## HELP WANTED

### SUNDAY MUSIC PERSON

Sunday Music Person to provide music accompaniment for church services as scheduled by congregational council or Pastor. This is a part-time position. For an interview, please contact Peace Lutheran

Church at 251-974-545 or peacelutheranchurch8250@gmail.com. **EXPERIENCED BARBACK** Hourly pay plus tipout; Apply in person everyday before 7pm; The Office Lounge, 122 County Road 20 West, Foley.

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