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.com



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## DIAMOND JEWELERS

GULF SHORES



*Merry Christmas*

*See page 3 for details*

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# DIAMOND JEWELERS

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## CHRISTMAS ON THE COAST



**PICTURE OF THE WEEK:** Ricky Martin shares a Christmas Picture of the Week of his 1933 Ford parked in front of the Christmas tree at the Wharf. (More Pictures of the Week on Page 50).

### Kids eat free at Lulu's Dec. 20 and Dec. 27 movie nights

Polar Express, Home Alone, cookies, popcorn, Find The Elf

Lucy Buffett's LuLu's will host Christmas Nights Polar Express on Dec. 20 and Home Alone on Dec. 27 on LuLu's Beach. This is a free family fun evening and kids eat free with the purchase of an adult meal. Enjoy complimentary popcorn, Christmas cookies and hot chocolate, and stick around until the movie's end to find the LuLu's Elf for a prize. Feel free to bring a beach blanket or chairs for the outside event. Some seating will be available.

Lucy Buffett's LuLu's is located at 200 E. 25th Ave. in Gulf Shores. Info: (251) 967-5858.

### Breakfast With Santa Dec. 17 at Erie Meyer Civic Center

Children will have the opportunity to visit with Santa at the Erie H. Meyer Civic Center on Dec. 17 at 8 a.m. Families can enjoy sausage, bacon, eggs, and pancakes. Admission is \$5, with children 3 and under admitted free. Children will also receive a complimentary picture with Santa. More info: gulfshoresal.gov.

### Pirates of Fish River Christmas Boat Parade is Dec. 17

The Pirates of Fish River Christmas Boat Parade will be held on Saturday, Dec. 17 beginning at 5:30 p.m. under the Hwy. 98 Fish River Bridge and end at the Hwy. 32 Bridge, with a post-parade party scheduled at Big Daddy's. If you would like to deck your boat out and participate, email piratesoffishriver@gmail.

### Fisher's Breakfast w. Santa Dec. 17, kids crafts Dec. 18-22

Fisher's at Orange Beach Marina will host a Christmas Brunch Buffet with Santa on Dec. 17 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The buffet includes a pancake decorating station and hot chocolate bar. Reservations are available by calling 251-981-7305.

Fishers will also host free children's dockside workshops from 11 a.m. til 4 p.m. beginning with reindeer foodcraft on Dec. 18. Also scheduled are cookie decorating on Dec. 19, candycane reindeer craft on Dec. 20, ornament decorating on Dec. 21 and wreath decorating on Dec. 22. The restaurant is located at 27075 Marina Rd. in Orange Beach.

### Hicks part of Dec. 17 Charlie Brown Christmas

The 13th annual family-friendly Charlie Brown Jazz Christmas is taking place on Dec. 17 at 6 p.m. at the Saenger Theatre Mobile. The show features The Joe Cool Trio performing Vince Guaraldi's A Charlie Brown Christmas. This year's show will also feature American Idol winner Taylor Hicks, a former Pleasure Island resident who went on to multiple residencies at a Las Vegas casino, and a part in a Broadway production of Greece. Tickets are on sale online and in person at the Saenger or at the event. Call 251-208-7381 for more info.

### Elf on Dec. 15 is final Movie at Meyer Park

The third and final film in the Movies at Meyer Park Series sponsored by the City of Gulf Shores is Elf (PG) on Dec. 15. Movies are free and begin at 6 p.m. Meyer Park is located in the Waterway Village District at 400 East 22nd Avenue in Gulf Shores. A food truck will be present, and beverages for all ages will also be sold.



### Lights nightly thru NYE at Lillian Recreational Park

Christmas in the Park continues until Dec. 31 at Lillian Recreational Park beginning around 5:30 p.m. nightly. Come see how the Park has been transformed into a one-of-a-kind Christmas wonderland, with thousands of twinkling lights, a 20' Wonderland Tree, and festive exhibits all around the Park.

Admission and parking are free. Christmas in the Park has become a family favorite. Last year, over 10,000 people visited the lights display, with many people stopping by multiple times.

"Last year, we took you Under the Sea. This year, we're going to transport you to the mountains, where you can watch penguins at play," said Lucy Smith, park board member and one of the festival organizers.

The park is located at 33914 Widdel Ave. in Lillian. From Hwy 98 turn south at the Post Office onto Perdido Street. Turn right onto Widdel Ave. The entrance is behind the power substation. For more info, visit LillianRecreationalPark.org or call 251-962-2129. **Pictured:** Sally McKinney pic from the Dec. 3 opening extravaganza. (More pictures on page 10)







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## CHRISTMAS ON THE COAST



### CHRISTMAS SHARING AT CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:

Each year members of Catholic churches in Baldwin County purchase specific gifts for children in need who register with Catholic Social Services in Robertsdale for the Christmas Sharing Program. CSS offers help for all ages including emergency assistance, legal immigration services, To Be Options for pregnant women, Backpack Program for students, and Senior Bags. It also operates the Second Hand Blessings Thrift Store next to the office building. **Pictured:** This year Kevin and Pami McKinney, representing St. Joseph Church in Lillian, delivered more than 40 gifts for 13 boys and girls. Accepting the donations is CSS Director Angela Hickey.

### Flora-Bama Christmas potluck starts at 1 p.m.

Whether you've been naughty or nice, Christmas is a time for family and friends to gather and celebrate. The Flora-Bama wants you to eat, drink and be merry for its traditional Christmas potluck. Food is served beginning at 1 p.m. The turkey and ham will be provided by the Flora-Bama, and patrons are encouraged to bring a covered dish to share - because that's what Christmas is all about!

The Flora-Bama is located on the Gulf of Mexico at the FI/AL line.

### OWA Theatre Christmas Show scheduled Dec. 18-23

OWA Theater in Foley will transform into a winter wonderland for an original Christmas play the whole family from Dec. 18 - 23. Enjoy the story of main character, Bastian, who breaks a "not-so-magical" family heirloom. Once asleep, he finds himself aboard the Holiday Express where he will travel far and beyond to meet friends and a familiar foe, revealing that the heirloom holds more wonders than he could ever imagine. More show details and ticket options can be found at [visitowa.com](http://visitowa.com) or by calling (251) 369-6100.



### Community Christmas program Dec. 18 at Bayside Baptist

Pastor Greg Brown and music director Gene Davis along with the Bayside Baptist Church congregation invite the community to join them for a Christmas program on Sunday, Dec. 18 at 6 p.m. The presentation will include Christmas carols, scripture readings, choral selections, congregational music, and solos "Mary Did You Know" and "O Holy Night." The church is located at 33677 Hwy. 98 in Lillian. For more info, call 812-371-2323.

### The Pirates of Lost Treasure seek Secret Santa sponsors

The Pirates of Lost Treasure, the Perdido Key based Mardi Gras krewe, is continuing its 25 year tradition of raising money for its Secret Santa program to provide a Merry Christmas to needy families. A member of the Pirates of Lost Treasure takes the parent shopping and spends \$100 on each child. Sometimes these are the only gifts these children receive and they often ask for things like shoes and coats. The Pirates help around 100 children annually. Tax deductible donations can be mailed to Pirates of Lost Treasure c/o Secret Santa 10447 Sorrento Road, Suite 100, PMB 76, Pensacola, FL 32507. Please make checks payable to PLT Secret Santa. Recipients are mostly referred to the program by churches, schools, and word-of-mouth. For more info, contact Brian Young at [perdidosecretsanta@gmail.com](mailto:perdidosecretsanta@gmail.com).

### OBPD Kids' Christmas Party with Santa returns Dec. 15

The Orange Beach Police Department invites the public to its annual Kids' Christmas Party with Santa from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, December 15th at Magnolia Hall, behind BuzzCatz, next to Cosmo's at 25689 Canal Rd.

### LuLu's Noon Year's Eve gets the party started

As always, families and children will be the focus during the annual Noon Year's Eve party on Dec. 31 at Lucy Buffett's LuLu's at Homeport Marina in Gulf Shores. Starting at 10 a.m., children will ring out the year in exciting style with a sandcastle building contest, face painting, kid safe fireworks, arts and crafts and live music. At noon, a beach ball will drop and Noon Year's Eve is celebrated with bubblewrap. Noon Year's Eve ends at 3 p.m. Admission is free, and LuLu's kitchen will be open. Lucy Buffett's LuLu's is located under the Intracoastal Bridge at 200 E. 25th Ave. (Info: [lulubuffett.com](http://lulubuffett.com)) or 251-967-lulu.

### Christmas Movie Night On The Trail is Dec. 16

Join Orange Beach Coastal Resources and the Hugh S. Branyon Backcountry Trail Foundation for a free Christmas Movie Night on the Trail at 6 p.m. Friday, December 16th at Al's Parkour Park. They will be showing "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" and serving popcorn and hot chocolate.

Bring a blanket and a chair and join us at Al's Parkour Park for a family-friendly movie night under the stars. Parking will be at the Orange Beach Sportsplex Trailhead. Shuttles to the Parkour Park will be available upon request. For any questions, call 251-981-1063.

### Coastal Arts Center hosts Light Up the Arts on Dec. 15

The Coastal Art Center of Orange Beach will host its Light Up the Arts event from 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, December 15. There will be hot glass, pottery demonstrations, raffles, cocoa, cookies, a gallery full of gift options with specials, and CASA student art showcase. Entertainment by saxophonist Rod Pittman. A wine bar provided by Friends of the Arts. It is located at 26389 Canal Rd. in Orange Beach. Info: 251-981-2787.



**Magnolia Springs Christmas In Style Also A Food Drop For Fur Babies:** Luminaries along Oak Street, A Christmas Tree lighting and libations at The Cold Hole were attractions during Magnolia Springs' Dec. 10-11 Christmas In Style celebration. The event also served as a cat/kitten food drive for the Magnolia Springs based Stray Love Foundation. It was the purr-fect donation for the overwhelming number of kitties Stray Love has taken in this fall, according to Gayle Guthrie, who founded the non-profit in 2009 to assist stray, injured, abandoned, orphaned and left behind animals through vet care, fostering and adoption into safe and loving permanent homes. To date, more than 1,400 animals have been placed in safe, loving homes. Supporting active TNR programs, advocacy, education and wellbeing assistance for the area's senior and vulnerable pet owners, round out Stray Love's big-picture cause. More info: [straylovefoundation.org](http://straylovefoundation.org) or [info@StrayLoveFoundation.com](mailto:info@StrayLoveFoundation.com).





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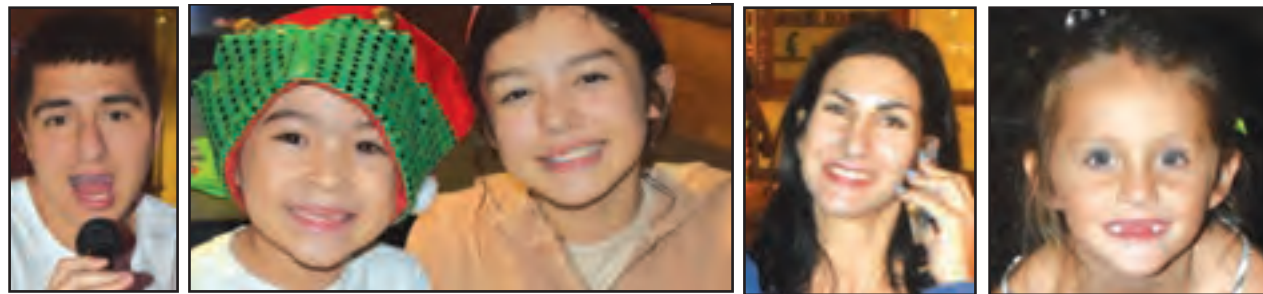
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## Very Merry Coastal Grinchmas At Gulf State Park

### Final GSP Very Merry Coastal Grinchmas Dec. 18

The final Very Merry Coastal Grinchmas on the campus of Gulf State Park Learning Center will be held on Sunday, Dec. 18 from 5-8 p.m. at the learning campus and Woodside Restaurant, located at 20249 State Park Road. One of the island's most popular Christmas events, Grinchmas is a free holiday jubilee the whole family will enjoy. Bring the family out to stroll Grinchville under the lights at the Learning Campus at Gulf State Park! You can meet and greet the Grinch and the Mayor of Whoville, dance with a DJ, get a "Who"-do at the beauty parlor, enjoy some "Who"-treats, make an ornament, send Santa Grinch a letter, check out your favorite book at the Whoville Library, decorate cookies at Woodside Restaurant and Send Santa Grinch a letter at the Whoville Post Office. Make an ornament at the Whoville Workshop and enjoy holiday cakes at the Whoville Pancake House and lots of games and family fun. **Pictured:** Fun at the Dec. 4 Grinchmas.







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### Very Merry Coastal Grinchmas At Gulf State Park



### Christmas Celebration At Lillian Recreational Park

Lillian Recreational Park launched the 4th Annual Christmas in the Park event recently to the delight of the community. The event began with a preview party for adults on Friday night that included heavy hors d'oeuvres, music and silent and live auctions. The following day was dedicated to children's activities and the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Claus.

**Related Story On Page 4**



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- \$2 Coors Light Draft on Tuesdays
- Bushwackers \$5 all day Wednesday
- \$4 Margaritas on Thursdays
- Tacky Mules \$5 on Fridays

Tuesday Nights Bingo 6:00 Karaoke 7:30  
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### Holiday

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# CHRISTMAS DAY BUFFET

**\$59 ADULTS | \$29 YOUTH 6-11 | KIDS 5 AND UNDER EAT FREE | 12:00PM - 8:00PM**

*Prices do not include  
tax and gratuity*

## COLD BUFFET

### WINTER SALAD

*Romaine Lettuce, Roasted Acorn  
Squash, Goat Cheese*

### COUNTRY BLACK EYED PEA SALAD

*Bacon, Red Onion, Bell Peppers,  
Champagne Vinaigrette*

### ORANGE RED ONION

*Orange, Red Onion,  
Toasted Almonds,  
Clove Vinaigrette*

### DRESSINGS

*Balsamic Vinaigrette  
Herb Buttermilk Ranch*

### BREAD STATION

*A variety of Country Style Breads,  
Classic Rolls and Rustic Loaves  
Sweet & Salt Butters*

## HOT BUFFET

### CARVING STATION

*Slow Roasted Prime Rib  
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Sauce, Rosemary Garlic Au Jus*

### TURKEY SLIDERS

*Roasted Turkey, Ginger Cranberry  
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*Roasted Snapper,  
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### Oyster Chowder

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### FOLEY CHRISTMAS PARADE





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Montezuma Tequila, Grenadine,  
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Barton's Vodka, Strawberry,  
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### Barbados Sunrise \$6

Montezuma Tequila, Blue Curacao,  
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Pineapple Juice

### Rum Runner \$6

Barton's White Rum,  
Barton's Dark Rum, Grenadine,  
Orange Juice, Pineapple Juice

### Vodka Spritzer \$6

Barton's Vodka, Simple Syrup, Lime,  
Sprite, Club Soda, Cranberry Juice

If you have any concerns regarding food allergies,  
please alert your server prior to ordering.  
\*This item may contain raw or undercooked meats,  
poultry, shellfish or eggs.  
Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry,  
shellfish or eggs may increase or risk  
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## NIBBLES

### Southwest Egg Rolls \$7

Cilantro Lime Crema

### Jalapeno Cheese Curds \$7

Buttermilk Herb Dipping Sauce

### Pickled Battered Masa Fries \$7

Tomato Bacon Jam

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Peppered Ranch Dipping Sauce

— With Purchase of Cocktail —

## BEER

### Canned Beer \$4

Bud Light  
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### Draft Beer \$6

Buenaveza Sea Salt & Lime  
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## WINE

Proverb Pinot Noir \$6

Proverb Cabernet \$6

Proverb Chardonnay \$6

Canyon Road Pinot Grigio \$6

All drinks contain 1 1/2 ounces of liquor,  
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Woodside Restaurant

AT GULF STATE PARK

WOODSIDE RESTAURANT AT GULF STATE PARK

20249 State Park Road | Gulf Shores, AL 36542 | woodsideatgsp.com | 251-923-3100



**MYSTICAL ORDER OF AURORA CELEBRATES SEASON WITH WHITE CHRISTMAS IN THE TROPICS**

The Auroras Mardi Gras Krewe celebrated a season of joy and generosity at the annual White Christmas in the Tropics party Dec. 2 at the beautiful Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach. Mayor Tony Kennon and his wife Paula joined the festivities, which featured dance tunes by Six Piece Suits band and a tree of toys and gifts donated by attendees for Christian Service Center to give to area children. "We are so blessed to live where people give so generously to help others," Eva Keesee, president of the Auroras said. "Our Aurora members and friends have big hearts for those who need a helping hand. When we can combine that spirit of the season with a beautiful celebration, it truly is magical."







**MEET & GREET**  
The Grinch &  
The Mayor of  
Whoville

**Bring the Family for a  
Stroll through Whoville!**

**Whoville Disco**  
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**Whoville Gingerbread House**  
Enjoy holiday treats

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For more information & updates, follow us on Facebook @learningcampusgsp and [www.learningcampusgsp.com/calendar](http://www.learningcampusgsp.com/calendar)





## AROUND TOWN

### Dec. 17 Make It To Line at 'Bama benefits Secret Santa

The Flora-Bama Lounge & Package will host its 34th Annual Make It to The Line 4-Mile Run/ Walk & 1-Mile Fun Run on Saturday, Dec. 17 at 10 a.m. Packet pick-up will be Dec. 16 from 4-7 p.m. and Dec. 17 from 6:30-8:30 a.m. at the Flora-Bama.

The individual entry fee is \$30 and the event is free for children 9 years & under (no t-shirt). The fee includes a race t-shirt and other goodies for the first 400 and plenty of healthy food, drink (including a couple of beers) and music on all three 'Bama stages post race. The 4-mile course is a simple out and back from the Flora-Bama to the Perdido Pass Bridge.

Awards will be three deep in thirteen age categories – male and female – for both runners and walkers. The now famous post race party will also include lots of door prizes. The Flora-Bama is located on the Gulf at the Alabama-Florida line. Register online at active.com or at Flora-Bama. A portion of the proceeds will benefit The PLT Secret Santa program.

### Bellingrath Christmas in Lights nightly through Dec. 31

Magic Christmas in Lights at Mobile's Bellingrath Gardens and Home, one of the nation's best holiday light shows, continues through New Year's Eve. The dazzling nighttime display features 1,100 set pieces, 3 million lights and 15 scenes spread throughout the 65-acre Garden estate. More info: [bellingrath.org](http://bellingrath.org) or 251-973-2217.

### HIPPY program topic of Dec. 21 Lunch & Learn in Foley

Foley Public Library will host a Lunch & Learn on Wed, Dec 21 at noon in the upstairs meeting room. This program will include a presentation by Shannon Kern, HIPPY Coordinator for the Gulf Coast Goodwill. HIPPY is a home visitation program that supports parents in the critical role as their child's first and most important teacher. HIPPY works directly with parents who then work with their children. Their mission is to partner with parents to prepare their children for success in school. A free meal will be provided so a reservation is required. Please RSVP on the library's website by 5 pm on Monday, Dec 19, to ensure enough food is purchased. You may also call 251-943-1031 to make a reservation by phone. More info: [foleylibrary.org](http://foleylibrary.org).

### SBCT's The Odd Couple (female version) opens on Jan. 5

South Baldwin Community Theatre will present The Odd Couple (Female Version) Jan. 5-8 and Jan. 12-15, with evening shows starting at 7:30 p.m. and the Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. aReed Beaman is the director. Tickets are \$15 for students and \$20 for adults. South Baldwin Community Theater is located at 2022 West 2nd St. in Gulf Shores. For more info or to buy tickets, visit [sbct.biz](http://sbct.biz) or call 251-968-6721. Brought to you by Lucy Buffett's Lulu's, The Odd Couple sees the lead characters transformed into Olive Madison and Florence Unger.



### Kiwanis Club of Big Lagoon Wreaths Across America Ceremony Dec. 17

It will take five semi-trailers to transport the 25,000 wreaths that volunteers plan to place in front of graves onboard NAS Pensacola on Dec. 17. The occasion is the Wreaths Across America program organized to remember and honor our fallen veterans. This year's ceremony and placement of wreaths spearheaded by the Kiwanis Club of Big Lagoon is at Barrancas National Cemetery beginning at 9 a.m.

The Big Lagoon Kiwanis, with help from the Bailey Middle School Builder's Club and the K-Kids Club, along with several other local area non-profits, will place the wreaths and provide an excellent opportunity to teach younger generations about the value of their freedoms and the importance of honoring those who sacrificed so much to protect those freedoms.

In 1992, 5,000 wreaths were donated by Morrill Worcester and Worcester Wreath Co. Years later, in 2005, an iconic photo of these wreaths in snow became a viral sensation. Finally, in 2007, Wreaths Across America was formed as a non-profit. WAA's mission is carried out by coordi-

nating ceremonies in all 50 states.

For more information, email [barrancaswreaths@gmail.com](mailto:barrancaswreaths@gmail.com), visit [barrancaswreaths.com](http://barrancaswreaths.com) or call 850-207-1217.

Wreaths are not sent to Barrancas unless they are sponsored by grateful patriots. Neither the VA, the Branches of the Military nor any other part of the government provides wreaths.

### Wreath Placement Volunteers Needed

Wreaths Across America is seeking volunteers to assist with wreath placement at Barrancas National Cemetery onboard NAS Pensacola on December 17. Mass wreath laying will begin at 9 a.m., will pause during the 11 a.m. ceremony, and resume afterwards. The ceremony will be held at the Memorial Plaza near the main cemetery administration building and will last 30-45 minutes. Please contact Volunteer Coordinator: Marcia Sevold for details at [BarrancasVolCoord@gmail.com](mailto:BarrancasVolCoord@gmail.com)



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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## WED, DEC 14

- Papa Rocco's Christmas Party: 6; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Danny Grady: 3:30-5:30; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Chris Hergenroder: 6; Rotolos Pizza; Fairhope.
- Danny Grady: 3:30-5:30; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Picker Woods: 6; Tacky Jacks; Fort Morgan.
- 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.
- Shawn Lackey: 5; Doc's Seafood & Steakhouse; Beach Rd., Orange Beach.
- Robert Broom: 5; American Legion Post 44; Foley.
- Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Open Jam: 7:30; Good Time Charlie's; Foley.
- John Brust: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- Open Mic: 6; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
- Gary Story & Friends: 8; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- 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; lafleetfeet.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.
- Gulf Shores Woman's Club: 11 a.m.; Palmer Room at Craft Farms; all interested women invited to attend; 251-980-5722.
- Gulf Shores Lions Club: noon; 2nd & 4th Wednesday; noon; Adult Activity Center, Gulf Shores; 251-968-2823.
- Al-Non: 12:30; Live Oak AFG, St John's Episcopal Church, 401 Live Oak Ave., Pensacola.

## THU, DEC 15

- Josh Newcom: 7; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Shelby Kemp: 5; Big Beach Brewery, Gulf Shores.
- Timmi G: 6; Sunset Cork Room; Gulf Shores.
- Skyline Kings: 6; Hub Stacy's; Innerarity Point.
- 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.
- Lisa Zanghi & Leaann Creswell: 5; Doc's Seafood & Steakhouse; Beach Rd., Orange Beach.
- Andy Andrews Live: 12:15; Andy Andrews General Store & Museum; The Wharf, Orange Beach.

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING



**COOKING FROM WORK CROCK POT PROGRAM:** The Beachbilly Lifestyle Charity Foundation, in partnership with the OBA Island Church, has launched its Cooking From Work Crockpot Program for single parents. The group plans to give away 100 crock pots this Christmas and eventually take the program nationwide. Pictured above are Beachbilly Josh Brown, Santa, Mark McBride, Pastor Fred Franks and Ben Kilborn. "If you are a working, single parent with children and would like to be considered for a crockpot so that you can cook your family dinner at home while you are actually at work during the day, please email us (CookingFromWork@gmail.com) and tell us your story," McBride said.



**JOE & MARY ANN CROMEAN CHARITABLE FOUNDATION SUPPORTS CSC:** Gray Cromeans presents a generous \$25,000 donation to Linda Chappelle (CSC Board President) from the Joe and Mary Ann Cromean's Charitable Foundation. The Center greatly appreciates their continuing support of our mission to serve those less fortunate in the community. Also pictured are Board VP Janice Moss and Food Pantry Chairman Stan Moss. CSC is an all volunteer non-profit agency; there are no salaries, no one is paid. The Center provides food and emergency financial aid to low income families in Gulf Shores, Orange Beach, and Ft. Morgan. 317 Dolphin Avenue, Gulf Shores; 251-968-5256; cscenr1991@gmail.com; website cscgs.com.



**ST. JOSEPH'S ALTER SOCIETY IN LILLIAN INSTALLS OFFICERS:** Members of the St. Joseph Alter Society in Lillian met to discuss past and future programs and to install officers for the coming year. Pictured from left are, Marge Handzus, Nicole Todd, Secretary Sally McKinney, Mary Jane Marion, Sue Karsten, Betty Bovat, Marie Manley, Barbara Bennett, and Margaret Wilcox. Seated are Mary Lou Partridge, President Harriet Shields, Treasurer Barbara Krouse and Vice President Pam West. Also pictured is visiting priest, Fr. Tom Weise.

### McCullough Plastic Surgery Clinic partners with Inspire

Drs. E. Gaylon McCullough and Brentley R. Taylor of the Gulf Shores' based McCullough Plastic Surgery Clinic have partnered with Inspire Aesthetics, a national plastic surgery network of elite practices. With the addition of the McCullough clinic, skin center and total health spa, located at Craft Farms, Inspire's geographic footprint is now in the Gulf Coasts of Alabama, Florida, and Mississippi. Plus, it further enhances Inspire's best-in-class provider base. More info: mcollough-institute.com.

### Volunteers needed for Dec. 29 O.B. theatre costume workshop

Orange Beach's Expect Excellence Community Theater is inviting community volunteers with artistic flair to a costume workshop to help produce fish costume headpieces needed for the upcoming performances The Little Mermaid at the Orange Beach Performing Arts Center in early February.

The headpiece building session will take place on Dec. 29 at the Orange Beach Recreation Center at 4849 Wilson Blvd. from 6-8 p.m.

"We wanted to give some of the more crafty people in our area a chance to join us for a couple of hours of creative fun," said City of Orange Beach Creative Director Jessica Langston.

Costume design volunteer, Shannon Gray said all that is needed to help out is a basic knowledge of how to use a glue gun and a desire to be a part of an amazing production.

"We will have a basic template, step by step instructions and walk everyone through creating a headpiece," she said. "There will be a variety of decorations provided to add to the basic design, so each piece created will be as unique." Info: 251-377-9936 or jlangston@orangebeachal.gov.

- Grief Support Group: 1-3; Gulf Shores First Baptist Church; 251-968-7369.
- William Gibson: 5; The Perch, Gulf State Park Lodge, Gulf Shores.
  - John Brust: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
  - Karaoke w. Howard: 7; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.
  - Tim Roberts: 6; The Tin Top Restaurant, Bon Secour.
  - Karaoke: 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
  - Bar Trivia Night: 5; Bar 45 Lounge at ONE CLUB, Gulf Shores.
  - Karaoke w. Kelly: 8; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
  - Bridge: 11:30 a.m.; Orange Beach Senior

- Center, 251-981-3440.
- 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.
- Gulf Shores United Methodist Church Bread Ministry: 9-10; every Thursday; room 103 on the south campus, next to Crossroad; 251 968-2411.
- Al-Anon: 7; Orange Beach Presbyterian Church, 26640 Canal Rd.
- AA: Noon; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point)

### FRI, DEC 16

- Eddie 2 Cool: 6; Carvers Steak House, Orange Beach.

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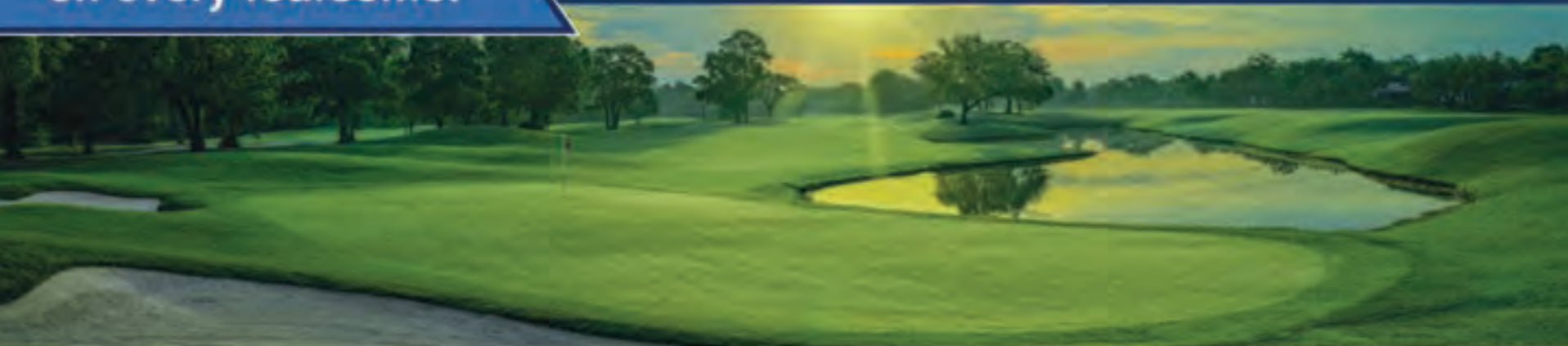
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## WHAT'S HAPPENING

- Danny Grady: 3:30-5:30; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Delta Donnie: 7; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Jessie Duncan Trio: 6; Big Beach Brewery, Gulf Shores.
- Mid-Life Crisis: 9; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- Gringo Fife: 6; Tacky Jacks; Fort Mor-

- gan.
- Tim Robinson: 5; Tacky Jacks; Gulf Shores.
- This Side of 49: 6; Sunset Cork Room; Gulf Shores.
- High Times Band: 7; Hub Stacy's; Innerarity Point.
- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; Per-

- dido Key.
- Flora-Bama Family Friendly Bingo: 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- Bubba 'N Them: 6; The Point; Innerarity Point.
- Tim Spencer: noon; Splash Pool; Perdido Beach Resort; Orange Beach.
- Guided Pier Walk: 9-10 a.m.; Gulf State



### Red Hot Chili Peppers will play next year's Hangout Fest on May 19

**By Fran Thompson**  
An hour before the official press release hit my inbox, I wrote a story about The Red Hot Chili Peppers website announcement of their gig at The Hangout Fest on May 19. The band was scheduled to headline in 2020 (along with Billie Eilish, the first of two consecutive festivals that fell victim to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Started in 2010 as oil spewed from the Deepwater Horizon oil rig and drifted towards us, the Hangout Fest is described in the release beautifully: "The soundtrack to your quintessential beach vacation on the majestic white sand beaches of Gulf Shores."

This year's fest takes place May 19-21. Other top acts include SZA, Calvin Harris, Paramore and Lil Nas X. Beach vacation packages went on sale last month and ticket pre-sales started on Dec. 9. General admission tickets are priced at \$319 plus fees or \$299 plus fees, if you buy four at a time. Three other ticket upgrades are available. Access tickets at [hangoutmusicfest.com](http://hangoutmusicfest.com).

The fest release also aptly described the fest as "a weekend defined by dancing in the sand with your best friends and listening to your favorite artists in one of North America's most beautiful destinations." That also hits the mark.

To paraphrase the press release issued by Diamant Public Relations, this year's line-up includes:

- **Rock:** The Red Hot Chili Peppers are described as "legendary." That is legit. Before and after the Hangout, the band is slated for stadium gigs in Houston and Dallas, respectively.
- **Pop-punk:** The genre is alive and well with Paramore leading the way supported by Mayday Parade and The Maine.
- **Pop Rock Sub-Genres:** Indie-rock and Americana are well-represented with The Backseat Lovers, Rainbow Kitten Surprise, Noah Kahan, COIN, and Alabama's own The Vegabonds. True that. Ed Sheeran ain't got nuttin' on Noah Kahan (except for international fame and \$500K guarantees). And Rainbow Kitten Surprise's Dec. 16 show at the Mobile Saenger is sold out.
- **Pop, Indie & Singer-Songwriters:** SZA plays hypnotic R&B; Calvin Harris and Lil Nas X fans will dance their hearts out; AJR is about brotherly indie harmonies and Tove Lo is iconic.
- **Hyped:** Attendees will find out what all the hype

is about at Ashe, Stephen Sanchez, Jessie Murph and Sabrina Carpenter.

• **Hip-Hop:** The fest is going to roll out its red carpet (or maybe one of those blue beach mats) for A\$AP Mob's FERG and the fiercely independent Russ. The reigning queen of Memphis rap, GloRilla will come proper, and Grammy-winning R&B bassist Thundercat will bring his larger than life live spectacle. The Kid LAROI will rap with an Australian accent, and Baton Rouge's Kevin Gates probably knows my youngest kid's beau, Joseph Swiger, who has been recording most of the rappers from that beautiful river town for about five years.

• **Dance Music:** Another Aussie act, Flume gets top billing and may trade a few "G'day, mates" with The Kid LAROI. The genre-bending producer Skrillex and his ilk are the main reason the fest will sell out to attendees between 18 and 28. Fans will go mental listening to REZZ and Alison Wonderland, both larger than life dance icons. Gryffin, Said The Sky, Big Wild and Two Feet will provide chiller strains, and house heads will unite (close to the stage, I presume) at John Summit, Dr. Fresch, Aluna and HoneyLuv.

• **Country:** Fest bookers stated that they wanted to give a nod to their southern roots, so they sprinkled in Priscilla Block, MIKE, and Kidd G to provide southern vibes.

"Nothing tops a dance music throwdown with all of your best friends on the beach, and this year's Hangout lineup is fully loaded," read the fest release. "Prepare to leave reality behind and try paradise on for size. You deserve it."

That the fest ties up the public beach for about a month, is almost the opposite of what was originally pitched and funnels money directly into the fest rather than the community is besides the point.

Gulf Shores City Council has rented its public beach to a private business to the detriment of other area retailers and restaurants and against the wishes of a majority of its citizens in return for a payout that improves the quality of life here. The Hangout contract extends through 2025.

The fest does not draw any more of a bad element than senior week or any other busy beach weekend. The rowdiness is confined to Gulf Place. And every word in the press release about 20-somethings coming here and having their best weekend ever is true.

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# DECEMBER 15 - DECEMBER 28

# FLORA

LOUNGE, PACKAG

THURSDAY- 15	FRIDAY-16	SATURDAY-17	SUNDAY-18	MONDAY- 19	TUESDAY-20	WEDNESDAY-21
<b>Membership Night 6-9 PM</b> Members get first drink free! (Up to \$5.75 value)	<b>Military Night</b>	<b>Good Times &amp; Good Music.</b>	<i>Service Industry Night &amp; PM Hospitality Industry gets free admission, 1st drink free (\$5.75 value), &amp; employee prices</i>	<i>Service Industry Night &amp; PM Hospitality Industry gets free admission, 1st drink free (\$5.75 value), &amp; employee prices</i>	<i>Service Industry Night &amp; PM Hospitality Industry gets free admission, 1st drink free (\$5 value), &amp; employee prices</i>	<b>Ladies' Night 6-9 PM</b> Ladies get first drink free (\$5.75 value)
<b>Dome Stage</b> 1:00 - J Hawkins Duo 5:30 - Steve & Joe Piano Show 9:15 - Jenna McClelland	<b>Main Room</b> 2:00 - LeaAnne Creswell Duo 6:00 - Scott Koehn Project 10:15 - Chance Neal <b>Dome Stage</b> 5:30 - The Big Earl Show 10:00 - Willie Traywick Band <b>Tent Stage</b> 12:00 - Jenna McClelland	<b>Main Room</b> 2:00 - J Hawkins Duo 6:00 - Tyler Ward 10:15 - Willie Traywick <b>Dome Stage</b> 1:00 - Chance Neal 5:30 - The Big Earl Show 10:00 - Smokey Otis Band <b>Tent Stage</b> 10:00 - Al & Cathy	<b>Main Room</b> 12:30 - Rick Whaley & The Perdido Brothers 4:00 - Dalton Bush 8:30 - Chance Neal <b>Top Deck</b> 8:00 - Patrick Cross <b>Tent Stage</b> 9am & 11am - Church Service	<b>Main Room</b> 12:00 - Mike Diamond 4:00 - Petty & Pace 8:00 - Jesse Duncan <b>Top Deck</b> 8:00 - Dalton Bush <b>Tent Stage</b> 12:00 - Live Music TBD	<b>Main Room</b> 1:00 - Justin Jeansonne 5:00 - Rick Whaley & The Perdido Brothers 9:00 - Dalton Bush <b>Top Deck</b> 8:00 - Patrick Cross <b>Tent Stage</b> 12:00 - Live Music TBD	<b>Main Room</b> 1:00 - Neil Dover 5:00 - Rhonda Hart Duo 9:00 - Tim Roberts <b>Top Deck</b> 8:00 - Ryan Dyer <b>Tent Stage</b> 12:00 - Live Music TBD

ON SALE

## 2023

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<b>Main Room</b> 1:00 - Mark Sherrill & Friends 5:00 - Jack Robertson aka Big Earl 9:15 - Brandon Blackburn	<b>Main Room</b> 2:00 - LeaAnne Creswell Duo 6:00 - Scott Koehn Project 10:15 - Dew Pendleton	<b>Main Room</b> 2:00 - J Hawkins Duo 6:00 - Brent Varner 10:15 - Patrick Cross	<b>Main Room</b> 1:30 - Rick Whaley & The Perdido Brothers 6:00 - Scott Koehn Project 10:15 - Brooks Johnson	<b>Main Room</b> 12:00 - Mike Diamond 4:00 - Petty & Pace 8:00 - Tony Ray Thompson	<b>Dome Stage</b> 12:00 - Johnny Barbato 4:00 - Rick Whaley & The Perdido Brothers 8:00 - Brandon Blackburn	<b>Dome Stage</b> 1:00 - Neil Dover 5:00 - Rhonda Hart Duo 9:00 - Ryan Dyer
<b>Dome Stage</b> 4:30 - Steve & Joe Piano Show	<b>Dome Stage</b> 5:30 - Jesse Duncan 10:00 - Ryan Dyer Band	<b>Dome Stage</b> 1:00 - Al & Cathy 5:30 - Mike Diamond 10:00 - Unfortunate Sons	<b>Dome Stage</b> 11:00 - Mike Diamond 1:00 - Brent Varner 5:30 - Patrick Cross 10:00 - Smokey Otis Band	<b>Top Deck</b> 8:00 - Mason Henderson	<b>Top Deck</b> 8:00 - David Chastang	<b>Top Deck</b> 8:00 - Patrick Cross
<b>Top Deck</b> 8:30 - Chris Beverly	<b>Tent Stage</b> 12:00 - Live Music TBD	<b>Tent Stage</b> 5pm - Christmas Eve Worship on the Water Flora-Bama Church Service (Family friendly and all ages)	<b>Tent Stage</b> 9:00 & 11:00 - No Church Services on Site. Stream online at <a href="http://www.worshiponthewater.com">www.worshiponthewater.com</a> 11:00 - Rhonda Hart Duo 2:00 - Jess Duncan ** Christmas Potluck 1pm	<b>Tent Stage</b> 12:00 - Live Music TBD	<b>Tent Stage</b> 12:00 - Live Music TBD	<b>Tent Stage</b> 12:00 - Live Music TBD

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### Body, Mind, Spirit Expo Jan. 7 at O.B. Event Center

Come get a New Year's reading at The Orange Beach: Body, Mind, Spirit Expo scheduled on January 7 from 10 a.m. 'til 7 p.m. at the Orange Beach Event Center at The Wharf. The event is a perfect way to spend an afternoon for people who are into alternative health, and wellness tools and products. It will also feature holistic and metaphysical practitioners.

"We will have life-changing guests, intuitives, psychics, readers, healers, practitioners, crystals, lightworkers, massage, books, shamans, alternative healing therapies, services, speakers, tarot readers, mediums, healers, metaphysical gifts, and more," said event director Ericka Boussarhane, who is also an international psychic medium.

The event will have over 100 booths, seminars, and services to enlighten and entertain your senses. Vendors are still being accepted. For more info, visit [OrangeBeachExpo.com](http://OrangeBeachExpo.com) or call 850-941-4321.



**ELBERTA MIDDLE FCCLA SUPPORTS POLICE DEPT. ANGEL TREE:** Elberta Middle School's chapter of Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) raised funds to sponsor eight children from the Elberta Police Department Angel Tree. They also raised additional funds to purchase supplies for all faculty and staff at their school. Twenty-eight members went shopping for all items after school on December 7 and organized them to hand out on December 9.

### Four A Change, David Jones, Victory Vertical Project play O.B.

The Acoustic Arts Series will return to the Orange Beach Coastal Arts Center for three 6 p.m. concerts this winter beginning with with a Jan. 6 performance of Bayside Serenade by Four A Change. The band has added songs Stand by Me, Africa, Wind Beneath my Wings and Landslide to its set since last playing in Orange Beach. They will also bring back some audience favorites.

On Jan. 19, David Jones, trumpeter, will perform Jazz Stories. In Feb. 16, the series will feature the Victory Vertical Project performing Pianos That Helped Win the War.

Tickets are \$20 for each performance, and seating is limited. The Coastal Art Center is located at 26389 Canal Road and sits directly on beautiful Wolf Bay. Call 251-981-2787 (ARTS) for ticket information.

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- Park Pier; Gulf Shores.
- Open Mic: 7; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
- Chase Brown: 5; The Perch, Gulf State Park Lodge, Gulf Shores.
- John Brust: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- 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.
- T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly); weigh-in 9; meeting 9:30; Foley Sr. Center, 304 E. Rose Ave.; 251-979-1075.
- Al-Anon: noon; Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church, Gulf Shores.

### SAT, DEC 17

- John Joiner: 6; Carvers Steak House, Orange Beach.
- Southern Star: 6:30; American Legion Post 99; Fairhope.
- Strickly River: 7; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Shawn Williams Trio: 6; Big Beach Brewery, Gulf Shores.

### O.B. Garden Club Game Day & Salad Luncheon is Feb. 15

The 35th Orange Beach Garden Club Game Day and Salad Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 15 at the Orange Beach Event Center at The Wharf from 10 - 3 p.m..

This year's theme is "Wild at Heart" and the club invites the public to join club members for food, fun and prizes.

This year, the club is celebrating the Orange Beach Wildlife Center and members will introduce some of the local wildlife the center has rescued and rehabbed.

The guest speaker Melissa Vinson, who manages the Wildlife Center as part of Orange Beach Coastal Resources, will describe daily life at the center and the exciting plans for the future.

The attendee's \$40 donation includes morning coffee and cookies, a day of gaming - participants organize the players and game - the wildlife encounter, the club's famous member-made unlimited salad luncheon and desserts and door and raffle prizes from area local businesses.

Tickets are available at The Emporium Gift Shop in the Orange Beach Rouse's Shopping Center on the Beach Road, and at Wildflowers Boutique in The Commons Shopping Center on Canal Road.

Questions? Call Cathy Oakes 251-233-0900.

- Class X: 9; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- Adam Holt: 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.
- Basch Jernigan: 6; Sunset Cork Room; Gulf Shores.
- Brandon Giles: 7; Hub Stacy's; Innerarity Point.
- Brent Varner: 1-5 p.m.; Woodside Restaurant, Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; Perdido Key.
- Robert Broom: 6:30; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- Destiny Brown: 5; The Perch, Gulf State Park Lodge, Gulf Shores.
- Karaoke w. Bree & David: 7; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
- The Defrosters: 2; Flying Harpoon II; Orange Beach.
- Karaoke: 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- Karaoke w. Howard: 7; Tacky Jacks, Ft. Morgan.
- Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermen Market: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.; 20733 Mifflin Rd. (County Rd. 20), Foley.
- Texas Hold 'em: 7; The Office, Foley.
- Baldwin County Republican Executive Committee: 10 a.m.; Robertsdale City

Hall Building; 251-379-0748 or [don@mcgriffaw.com](mailto:don@mcgriffaw.com)

- Optimist Club of Perdido Bay: breakfast every Saturday at 7 a.m. at the Lillian Community Club in Lillian; (251) 961-2620.
- Ladies AA: 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.; Perdido Bay UMC Worship Center, 13660 Innerarity Point Rd., (Innerarity Point) Pensacola.

### SUN, DEC 18

- Tim Robinson: 7; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- The Cordial Brothers: 4; Big Beach Brewery, Gulf Shores.
- Brooks Johnson: 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.
- Justin Colvard: 1-5 p.m.; Woodside Restaurant, Gulf State Park; Gulf Shores.
- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; Perdido Key.
- Chris Beverly: 5; Doc's Seafood & Steakhouse; Beach Rd., Orange Beach.
- Danny Grady: 2; Fraternal Order of Eagles Lodge; Foley.
- Bends & Brews Yoga: 11 a.m.; in the courtyard; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.
- Lisa Zanghi: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING

Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.

- The Defrosters: 2; Flying Harpoon II; Orange Beach.
- Rodger & Elaine: 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- DNA Trio: 4; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- League Pool: 7; The Office, Foley.

### MON, DEC 19

- Danny Grady: 3:30-5:30; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Lefty Collins: 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.
- 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.
- Lisa Zanghi: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- Bama Beach Pickleball Club: 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).

- Smokey Otis: 7; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Open Mic w/Davo: 7; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- Key Songwriter's Open Mic: 7; The Breakfast Club; Perdido Key
- Bridge (11 a.m.) & Bingo (6 p.m.): American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- League Pool: 7; The Office, 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.
- 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

# Alabama's private recreational red snapper quota may be cut

By David Rainer  
AL Dept. of Con. and Nat. Resources

Under a final rule published by NOAA Fisheries on December 1, Alabama's private recreational anglers will see a 51% decrease in the 2023 red snapper quota. The rule, which goes into effect on January 1, 2023, will reduce Alabama's private recreational quota from 1,122,662 pounds in 2022 to 558,200 pounds in 2023.

The reason for the quota reduction is to account for the differences in the red snapper harvest estimates between the federal and Alabama's data collection programs.

Scott Bannon, Director of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Marine Resources Division, said the reason for the quota reduction is to account for the differences in the red snapper harvest estimates between the federal and Alabama's data collection programs. The quota was calculated using the federal survey estimates. However, since 2018, Alabama's quota has been monitored using the state's data collection program, Snapper Check. The final rule used the average of the annual ratio of Snapper Check to federal landings from 2018 and 2019 which resulted in a 51% reduction in the quota for 2023.

"Each Gulf state is accounting for their recreational harvests using different data programs from what the federal government is using," Bannon said. "Under the other final rule that created state management of red snapper in 2018, there was a requirement to align the landings into the same currency through a calibration method. Alabama and Mississippi have very accurate reporting systems, and we feel the harvest estimates from NOAA are inflated and unreasonable.

"Since before state management of red snapper was initiated, we have pushed the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council) that we should manage the amount of fish off each state. From Alabama's perspective, this is in part due to the investments made by the state and private individuals in artificial reef building from which a significant number of red snapper and other reef species are produced in Alabama's reef zones."

Alabama has the largest artificial reef zone (outdooralabama.com/saltwater-fishing/artificial-reefs) in the United States with nearly 1,100 square miles designated for habitat enhancement. Beginning in 2012, the population of red snapper and other popular reef fish have been monitored through research from the University of South Alabama's School of Marine and Environmental Sciences.

"Utilizing the abundance estimates we receive from the University of South Alabama each year, nearly 25% of the red snapper that occur off Alabama live among

artificial reefs, and we think our red snapper stock is continuing to replenish itself at a sustainable rate." Bannon said. "We feel very strongly that in the Alabama reef zone the stock is very stable. Recruitment is good as there are enough young fish moving up through the reef system."

Alabama made a motion at the Gulf Council in 2020 that would delay calibration until 2023 to wait until a research assessment could be completed and the latest data incorporated for population estimates for red snapper. An agreement to wait until that assessment was finished was not reached, but calibration was delayed until January 1, 2023.

"We're working with NOAA Fisheries, the Gulf Council and the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) to review the calibration numbers, using more recent data," Bannon said. "We have presented alternative calibration ratios based on a more recent time series of harvest. We are hopeful that in 2023 we will see a change in this published calibration number that is more favorable to the state of Alabama."

Alabama's alternative calibration ratio proposal to NOAA Fisheries will be considered by the SSC and then returned to NOAA Fisheries and the Gulf Council for consideration at a future Gulf Council meeting. Through the Gulf Council process, there is an opportunity to review the calibration ratio from time to time to allow for new data or a new method to determine the ratio.

The data used to determine the catch limits came from the Great Red Snapper Count in 2021, which estimated stock biomass of Gulf red snapper was approximately three times the previous estimate, and the NOAA Fisheries' Bottom Longline survey. The SSC discussion determined that the estimates of red snapper from the Great Red Snapper Count and a stock assessment from 2018 were similar for hard bottom and artificial reef habitat where most snapper fishing occurs.

The Great Red Snapper Count indicated that red snapper also inhabit uncharacterized (without structure) bottom, which was largely not considered in previous stock assessments. Because those red snapper do not relate to artificial reefs, the SSC determined that those fish would likely not be targeted by anglers and that basing the harvest levels on the entire population could lead to localized depletions on the reefs.

In that same NOAA Fisheries final rule is an increase in the red snapper allowable catch limit (ACL) from 15.1 million pounds to 15.4 million pounds. However, the new overfishing limit was set at 25.6 million pounds, up 10.1 million pounds from 2022. With the small increase in ACL, Alabama would see a minimal increase in quota to 1,145,026 million pounds prior to the calibration being applied.

"I'm disappointed with the allowable catch limit set so far below the overfishing limit," Bannon said. "I think the ACL could have been set a little higher, which

would have given opportunities to all three sectors – commercial, for-hire (charter boats) and private recreational anglers.

"Recently, some anglers have expressed concerns about catching smaller red snapper, and the fish are harder to catch. We recognize that under state management the level of harvest was going to be larger than we saw during the shorter federal seasons. As a result, the average size fish would change, and locating those fish may be more difficult as time goes on."

The amount of private recreational harvest during the 2022 Alabama red snapper season has not been equivalent to recent years for a variety of reasons. The most recent data from Alabama's Snapper Check indicate anglers have harvested less than half of the 2022 quota of 1.12 million pounds. This is primarily the result of less than half of the number of angler trips taken in 2021 have been taken in 2022.

"Normally on opening weekend we see a tremendous amount of fishing effort, but the weather conditions were not favorable for anglers," Bannon said. "The fish are the largest and most plentiful and everybody has the excitement that the season is open. The weather was terrible on this year's opening weekend, so we had very little effort. The following weekend was better, but it still wasn't safe or comfortable for anglers on smaller vessels. So, we started the season with relatively low numbers."

Other reasons mentioned why fishing effort was much lower than last year were the high fuel prices and COVID-19 restrictions being lifted in many locations so other recreational opportunities were available.

Bannon added, "Fortunately, with the state system, people understand they can wait for a better day and fish when it works well for them. They are not pressured to go the way they did when the seasons were very short.

Bannon said anglers still have the opportunity to catch red snapper for Christmas because the season of Friday-Monday weekend openings will continue until midnight on Saturday, December 31.

"Now that the football regular season is over and the deer aren't moving, you can go fishing," he said. "The rut won't happen until January or February, so go fish a few days."

Anglers who fish in Alabama's artificial reef zone may catch snapper from 20-plus pounds to the 16-inch minimum. Private recreational anglers may see a 51% reduction in quota for 2023. Research efforts constantly monitor the red snapper population in the Alabama artificial reef zone.



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### COOKIN' WITH CAROLYN BY CAROLYN GODFREY

#### Effortless Eggnog

1/2 gallon cold milk, divided  
 1 (3-4 oz.) pkg. French vanilla instant pudding mix  
 1/4 cup sugar  
 2 tsp. vanilla  
 1/2 tsp. cinnamon  
 1/2 tsp. nutmeg  
 In large bowl, whisk 3/4 cup milk and pudding mix until smooth. Whisk in sugar, vanilla, cinnamon, and nutmeg. Stir in remaining milk. Refrigerate until serving. Yields 2 quarts. **Enjoy!**  
 Note: Basic recipe...you can add your favorite flavors to make it your own.

### Tickets on sale for Feb. 4 Mako Masquerade Ball

Tickets are on sale now for the Mako Masquerade Ball and Drawdown at the Orange Beach Events Center, Saturday, February 4, 2023. Enjoy a fun-filled night of music with Fly By Radio, dinner catered by Wolf Bay Lodge, and a chance to win \$7,500! A ticket is \$75 per person and comes with a drawing to win the jackpot. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the formal event begins at 7:00 pm. BYOB. The annual drawdown is hosted by the Makos Academics, Arts, and Athletics Club also known as (MAAAC). MAAAC is a non-profit organization that represents and funds the interests of students at the Orange Beach Elementary, Middle, and High School. MAAAC's core mission is to raise funds that directly support and enhance our children's educational experience. For more information contact the MAAAC at (251) 200-8037 or to purchase your tickets go to obmaaac.org.

### Free E-Cycling & Shred Day Jan. 7 at GSP Pavilion

The Coastal Alabama Annual E-Cycling and Shred Day will be held from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, January 9th at the Gulf State Park Pavilion, 22250 E Beach Blvd. This event is for individuals who wish to dispose of their personal paper documents (tax information and returns, bank statements, canceled checks, paycheck stubs, ATM receipts, credit card statements, utility bills or any documents containing personally identifiable information) to be shredded. Each vehicle is limited to 50 pounds. Small paper clips do not need to be removed, please do not tape or tie the bags or boxes. You don't have to get out of your car, the work will be done for you. Participants may also properly dispose of any electronic items (televisions, computers, vacuums, printers, VCRs, power tools, etc) they may have. No batteries please.

Ad. Info: [mulletwrapper.com](http://mulletwrapper.com)  
**850-492-5221**

Episcopal Church; Gulf Shores, 616 Ft. Morgan Rd.; 251-709-5907.  
 • Bingo: 6; American Legion Post 99, Gulf Shores.  
 • Al-Anon: 7; Orange Beach Presbyterian Church, 26640 Canal Rd.

#### TUE, DEC 20

• Lisa Christian: 6; Sunset Cork Room; Gulf Shores.  
 • 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.  
 • Bingo: The Tiki; 5; Sportsman Marina, Orange Beach.  
 • Top Hat & Jackie: 5; Doc's Seafood & Steakhouse; Beach Rd., Orange Beach.  
 • Jam Night: 6; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.  
 • Lisa Zanghi: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.  
 • Andy Andrews Live: 12:15; Andy An-

draws General Store & Museum; The Wharf, Orange Beach.  
 • Karaoke/Bingo: 6; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.  
 • JW Karaoke: 6; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.  
 • Danny Grady: 3; American Legion Post 44; Gulf Shores.  
 • Bridge: 11:30 a.m.; Orange Beach Senior Center, 251-981-3440.  
 • Karaoke w. Kelly: 8; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.  
 • Pool Tourney: 7; Snapper's; Orange

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

Beach.

- Texas Hold 'em: 7; The Office, Foley.
- Manna Center Food Pantry: 9-11 & 2-4;
- First Baptist Church of Gulf Shores; 2300 West 1st St.; also adult & children's clothes, computer access, limited financial assistance. Info: 251-948-2485.
- GriefShare Support Group, 6; Point Baptist Church, 13801 Innerarity Point Rd, Pensacola; 601-278-6973.
- Baldwin Senior Softball Group: 10 a.m.; 50 and over; 10 a.m.; call 225/313-8516 for info & location.
- Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermen Market: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.; 20733 Mifflin Rd. (County Rd. 20), Foley.
- Foley Kiwanis Club: noon; Vallarta's, 1145 S. McKenzie St., Foley; 859-771-6091.
- Kiwanis Club of Big Lagoon: 6 p.m.;
- Point Baptist Church, 13801 Innerarity Point Rd., Pensacola.
- Foley Kiwanis Club: noon; Vallarta's, 1145 S. McKenzie St., Foley; 859-771-6091.
- Al-Anon: 7 p.m.; Lillian United Methodist Church, 12770 N. Perdido St.

## WED, DEC 21

- Zoe Burdett: 6; Rotolos Pizza; Fairhope.
- Danny Grady: 3:30-5:30; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Adam Tyler Brown: 6; Tacky Jacks; Fort Morgan.
- Adam Holt: 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.
- 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.
- Shawn Lackey: 5; Doc's Seafood & Steakhouse; Beach Rd., Orange Beach.
- Robert Brown: 5; American Legion Post 44; Foley.
- John Brust: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- Open Jam: 7:30; Good Time Charlie's; Foley.
- Open Mic: 6; Tacky Jacks, Gulf Shores.
- Gary Story & Friends: 8; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- John Joiner & Darrel Roberts: 6; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- Karaoke & League Pool: 7:30; The Office,

Foley.

- Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Bingo: 10 a.m.; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- BBRC Running Club: 5:30 p.m.; Big Beach Brewery in Gulf Shores; lafletfeet.com.
- 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.
- Food Ministry For Hungry Families: noon-1 p.m.; Grace Lutheran Church, corner of West 23rd Ave. and West 4th St. in Gulf Shores; 251-968-5991.
- Food Bank: 9 - 11 a.m every Wednesday, Perdido Bay Baptist Church, 12600 Sorrento Rd. Pensacola; call for eligibility requirements at (850) 492-2604.
- Bread Ministry: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Orange Beach United Methodist Church Brook's Center, AL.
- Al-Non: 12:30; Live Oak AFG, St John's Episcopal Church, 401 Live Oak Ave., Pensacola.

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## Gulf Shores Garden Club seminar is Feb. 1 Annual event always sells out ahead of time

**By Charlotte Higgins**  
The Gulf Shores Garden Club 30th Annual Floral Seminar will be February 1, 2023, at the Erie Myers Civic Center. The theme this year is "A Time To Celebrate With Flowers." The tickets cost \$25.00. This includes lunch and door prizes. Tickets will not be sold at the event. Tickets go on sale October 21. Tickets can be purchased at: Thomas Norton Public Library, 221 West 19th Ave, Gulf Shores; Island Enclosures, 3757 Gulf Shores Parkway Suite E, Gulf Shores. Mail orders to: Charlotte Higgins, 1484 Sandpiper Lane, Unit 5, Gulf Shores, AL 36542. Checks should be made out to: Gulf Shores Garden Club.  
The speaker this year is Benny Campbell. He is owner of Attalla Florist in Attalla, AL. He brings knowledge and humor to his presentation. He has spoken at several Garden Club events, Flower Shows and City events. He has also, won many awards and numerous other acclamations. We hope to see you there.

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### BCSD Superintendent warns parents that vape devices being used to inhale THC Narcan kits used to treat fentanyl overdoses are available in all district schools

At a recent press conference and a letter sent out to Baldwin County Public Schools parents, Superintendent Eddie Tyler stated that although there is no drug problem in the schools he oversees, he wanted to alert parents about the dangers of drug-laced vape pens and issue a wake-up

“While I don't believe we have a drug problem, I do believe we have a vaping problem amongst the youth in our communities.”

“This is not something exclusive to Baldwin County schools and it is not something exclusive to high schoolers. It is happening all over the country, all over the state and even among our younger children.

“THC is also frequently being injected into vapes. Some of the children using these devices are aware of it and yet some of them are not. I'm sure you can imagine the kid who offers something to someone else to try, with that person unsuspectingly inhaling THC and getting high,” he added.

Tyler said vape kits are also being injected with the powerful narcotic fentanyl, a synthetic opioid that even in very, very small amounts is deadly. Fentanyl has been the cause of the vast majority of overdoses in America, Alabama and Baldwin County this year.

“I'm not an expert, but what I understand is the drugs injected into these vape kits don't mix perfectly. So, the first person who inhales may get a little, the second person who inhales may get none and the third or fourth person who inhales may get the vast majority of what was injected. This inequitable distribution of the chemical is what appears to be causing overdoses,” Tyler said.

Tyler said Narcan kits used to treat fentanyl overdoses are available in all district schools.

“That may seem ridiculous to some, and I would have agreed, but then I was reminded about the curiosity of young children. The concern and unfortunately, the real-life example, is the youngest child who finds something their parent or sibling left out and wants to try because they think it's cool and worse, might share it with others,” Tyler said.

“It's something at first that you can do first-hand, that you can administer before the ambulance arrives and is a really good thing to have available for our students. We hate to ever have to use it but if we did, at least we have it available,” added Ashley Barnhill, Health Services Coordinator for BCSD.

It is against state law for anyone under 21 to

possess or use a vape device regardless of what is inside it. In some cases, school resources officers have issued tickets to students for possessing those devices. Test kits are available on all BCSD campuses to determine what is in vape devices.

Students in possession of vape devices are suspended for one day, and if THC is found in the vape, they are suspended for five days.

“We're not looking to discipline our students, we're looking to protect them,” said assistant superintendent Marty McRae.

An increase in respiratory illnesses as the result of vaping are also a growing concern at schools, according to Barnhill.

“You don't know what you're inhaling into your body, it could ruin your lungs, but not only that, the different drugs that are in the vapes can lead to major conditions,” she said.

Tyler urged parents to talk to their kids about vaping, drinking and drugs by asking them what their friends are doing and sharing concerns about fentanyl.

“I know how uncool we can be as parents but sometimes we don't need to be cool. Sometimes we need to love, be concerned and even be hard when it comes to protecting our children. Even though our kids push back against authority, they want to be loved. Show them that love through your concern,” he said.

A Selma High School student died and four others were rushed to the hospital last month from fentanyl overdoses.

Fentanyl was approved by the Food and Drug Administration for use as an analgesic (pain relief) and anesthetic. It is approximately 100 times more potent than morphine and 50 times more potent than heroin.

“In my 30 years teaching, I've buried several students and that's not something you ever want to do. That's why we rang the bell to talk about this today. The device I'm talking about, it's a DAP pen. It's an electronic cigarette and it has the marijuana content on it but what worries me more than anything,” said Fairhope High School Principal Jon Cardwell, a former teacher at GSHS.

“We don't know what's in them. Kids are essentially smoking synthetic marijuana while sitting in class. They're passing out and vomiting, and it's a fact that we are having to prepare ourselves for drug overdoses.”

An a personal note, an emotional Tyler said he lost his youngest child to a tragic traffic accident when he was a high schooler. “The pain I suffered that day continues,” he said. “I do not want any parent to ever have to suffer that tragedy. I don't want any of you to experience what I have experienced myself.

“Please don't take our message today as traditional drug awareness event. It's not,” Tyler added. “This is a wakeup call about what is happening with this deadly trend. This is not about a drug problem in Baldwin County schools. Drugs are everywhere. Drugs are in our schools.”

### THU, DEC 22

- Tim Robinson: 7; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
  - Basch Jernigan: 5; Big Beach Brewery, Gulf Shores.
  - Ronnie Presley: 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.
  - Lisa Christian: 6; Sunset Cork Room; Gulf Shores.
  - Brandon Giles: 6; Hub Stacy's; Innerarity Point.
  - Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible
- Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; Per-

dido Key.

- Flora-Bama Family Friendly Bingo: 1-4 p.m.; free; family friendly; Flora-Bama; Perdido Key.
- Andy Andrews Live: 12:15; Andy Andrews General Store & Museum; The Wharf, Orange Beach.
- Lisa Zanghi & Leaann Creswell: 5; Doc's Seafood & Steakhouse; Beach Rd., Orange Beach.
- Grief Support Group: 1-3; Gulf Shores First Baptist Church; 251-968-7369.
- William Gibson: 5; The Perch, Gulf State Park Lodge, Gulf Shores.

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING

## PIER & SHORE FISHING OUTLOOK

By DAVID "THE PIERPOUNDER" THORNTON

It appears our weather roller coaster ride may soon again drop from recent record high temperatures to below average. That would soon be reflected by lowering Gulf water temperatures, which average from the upper to middle 60s by the end of this month.



In the shallower back bays and surfzone, the water should cool off even faster once cooler air settles in. Such a trend may shut down some fishing opportunities for a few days, if the variation in those nearshore waters is too unsettling for the fish.

Any temperature change of more than 5 degrees is often enough to keep fish from biting for several days, until things settle down and their metabolism adjusts to the new temperature range.

Water near shore will be coolest in the morning hours as relatively colder water from the bays drains out the passes with outgoing tides. Conversely, we can expect a water temperature rise of a few degrees through the afternoon with incoming tides. This will likely be felt most between the 19th and 26th of the month when the tidal range is highest (up to 2.5 feet). That is an extreme tide change in our lil corner of the world, and it could have a profound effect of the fishing prospects all along the coast. Of course the specific weather we experience during that period will be a contributing factor too. Strong high pressure (with clearing skies and strong northerly winds will exaggerate morning low tides. But if we get a moderate to strong southerly wind flow around then, the tide level would be higher than predicted into the evening hours near the time of astronomical high tide. A NEAP tide through the 15th and 16th may dampen the temperature modification of the water for a few days. But that will change as we get increasing tidal flow through the week following.

Anglers have been finding scattered schools of sheepshead throughout the area. Though most have been running a little below average size, perhaps even under sized as is typical in fall. Keep in mind sheepshead are a regulated species in both Alabama and Florida, with slight differences in both size and creel limits. It pays to know before you go!

Most of the sheepshead have been staging around hard structures in the back bays and canals where at least some tidal current is present. Some have been showing up around the Gulf State Park lately where they were caught on both live shrimp and fiddler crabs. Pinfish have still been a problem for anglers targeting sheepshead at the pier as well as Perdido Pass. But that could change as we approach the Christmas season once the water cools off again.

Pompano have been quite spotty in the surfzone lately. Perhaps because the Gulf has been so calm and clear recently, with the sky so foggy.

Plus the sandbar structure has not been particularly favorable to target pompano either. As you venture eastward, in most locations the long-shore sandbar is beyond casting range from shore. At least recent weather and water temperatures have allowed anglers to wade out to cast to deeper holes and drop offs, but with varying results. The sandbars along the Fort Morgan peninsula seem to have been more conducive at times for holding pompano. Though the afternoon rising tide may add a little more depth to the water in the trough. This would encourage more pompano to utilize that beach structure.

We received news the upcoming shoreline dredging project has likely been delayed until next fall. So at least for this winter it will not interfere with surf fishing.

Whiting and ground mullet have been providing the bulk of action for many shorebound anglers. Though their numbers and sizes seem smaller than we have seen the past few years. Again, it may just be a cycle due to odd weather. Or, it could be a sign of localized depletion from over-fishing these non-regulated species. Time may well tell.

In the meantime, anglers can do their part by being more discreet and releasing whiting under 11 or 12 inches. That way they should be able to reproduce at least once. These kingfish grow only about an inch per year after they reach sexual maturity. So it takes a number of years to obtain those trophy catches, close to two pounds, which we all love so much. And PLEASE refrain/discourage feeding fish discards to herons and pelicans. It exacerbates the situation and greatly increases the likelihood of that bird being involved in a fishing gear entanglement.

Redfish and black drum are still viable options for anglers fishing the passes or Intercoastal Waterway. Cut crab seems to be the best bait, though more slot-sized fish can be caught on live shrimp. Live bait availability has been OK at times, but seasonal weather and holiday interruptions in the live bait supply are not unusual. Plan ahead, or be prepared to catch your own bait as we quickly approach the time of year when ghost shrimp becomes a bait of choice for many fish species.

**Pictured:** Young Cayden Holder caught his first sheepshead from the Gulf State Park Pier.



- Bama Beach Pickleball Club: 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
- Karaoke w. Howard: 7; 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.
- Bridge: 11; American Legion Post 44; Gulf Shores.
- Karaoke w. Kelly: 8; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- Karaoke: 9; The Undertow; Orange Beach.
- Bridge: 11:30 a.m.; Orange Beach Senior Center, 251-981-3440.
- 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.
- Al-Anon: 7; Orange Beach Presbyterian Church, 26640 Canal Rd.

### FRI, DEC 23

- Chris Hergenroder: 6; Carvers Steak House, Orange Beach.
- Danny Grady: 3:30-5:30; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Tim Robinson: 7; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- The Destinations: 6; Big Beach Brewery, Gulf Shores.
- False Identity: 9; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- Delta Donnie: 6; Tacky Jacks; Fort Morgan.
- Light Travelers: 5; Lucy Buffett's

- Lulu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.
- Milton Fuastino: 6; Sunset Cork Room; Gulf Shores.
- The Flavors: 7; Hub Stacy's; Innerarity Point.
- 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.
- Bubba 'N Them: 6; The Point; Innerarity Point.
- Rodger & Elaine: 7; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- Open Mic: 7; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
- Chase Brown: 5; The Perch, Gulf State Park Lodge, Gulf Shores.
- John Brust: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- Karaoke w. Kelly Ann: 6; American Legion Post 99; Snapper.
- 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.
- T.O.P.S. (Take Off Pounds Sensibly); weigh-in 9; meeting 9:30; Foley Sr. Center, 304 E. Rose Ave.; 251-979-1075.
- Al-Anon: noon; Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church, Gulf Shores.

### SAT, DEC 24

- Danny Grady: 3:30-7; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; Perdido Key.
- Karaoke: 6; American Legion Post 44, Gulf Shores.
- Karaoke w. Bree & David: 7; American Legion Post 199; Fairhope.
- Destiny Brown: 5; The Perch, Gulf State Park Lodge, Gulf Shores.
- John Brust: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.



**FISH ON:** Taylor Cummings landed this nice black drum from the Gulf State Park Pier recently. (Photo by Ellis Cattin). Jordan Gooding is sizing up this nice whiting while "Fred" the heron stalks in the background. (Photo by G2 Coastal).

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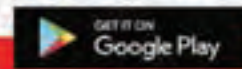


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## WHAT'S HAPPENING

- 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's Market: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.; 20733 Mifflin Rd. (County Rd. 20), Foley.

### SUN, DEC 25

- Flora-Bama Rest. Complex Possible Probables: Schedule on Pages 28-29; Perdido Key.
- Danny Grady: 2; Fraternal Order of Eagles Lodge; Foley.
- Rodger & Elaine: 6; American Legion Post 44, 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.

- Beach.
- The Defrosters: 2; Flying Harpoon II; Orange Beach.
- DNA Trio: 4; Hub Stacy's; Innerarity Point.
- League Pool: 7; The Office, Foley.

### MON, DEC 26

- Danny Grady: 3:30-5:30; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Brent Burns: 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.
- 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.
- Lisa Zanghi: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- Smokey Otis: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Open Mic w/Davo: 7; Sandshaker at

- The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- Bridge (11 a.m.) & Bingo (6 p.m.): 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.
- Al-Anon: 7; Orange Beach Presbyterian Church, 26640 Canal Rd.

### TUE, DEC 27

- Lefty Collins: 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.
- Lisa Christian: 6; Sunset Cork Room; Gulf Shores.
- 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.
- Bingo: The Tiki; 5; Sportsman Marina, Orange Beach.
- Jam Night: 6; Big Beach Brewery; Gulf Shores.
- Lisa Zanghi: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- Andy Andrews Live: 12:15; Andy Andrews General Store & Museum; The Wharf, Orange Beach.
- Bama Beach Pickleball Club: 9-noon; Church of Christ, 2414 West 1st St., Gulf Shores; (new members welcome).
- Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde: 7; Pappa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- JW Karaoke: 6; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- Danny Grady: 3; American Legion Post 44; Gulf Shores.

- Bridge: 11:30 a.m.; Orange Beach Senior Center, 251-981-3440.
- Pool Tourney: 7; Snapper's; Orange Beach.
- Karaoke w. Kelly: 8; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- Texas Hold 'em: 7; The Office, Foley.
- Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermen's Market: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.; 20733 Mifflin Rd. (County Rd. 20), Foley.
- GriefShare Support Group, 6; Point Baptist Church, 13801 Innerarity Point Rd, Pensacola; 601-278-6973.
- South Baldwin Republican Women: Gift Horse Rest., 11:30 a.m.; 4th Tuesday of Every Month, public invited, Info: 251-978-6178.
- Manna Center Food Pantry: 9-11 & 2-4; First Baptist Church of Gulf Shores; 2300 West 1st St.; also adult & children's clothes, computer access, limited financial assistance. Info: 251-948-2485.
- Orange Beach City Council Meeting: 5 p.m.; City Hall; 980-INFO.

## GULF SHORES CITY COUNCIL

# 2023 Zydeco Fest will include April 21 evening concert

By John Mullen

Gulf Shores renewed its contract with AirMedCare that covers the out-of-pocket expenses for residents within the corporate limits during a joint council work/regular session on Dec. 12. It was the final meeting of the year.

The contract covers what "residents would normally pay for ground and/or air ambulance transportation and a contract to cover city employees if they are transported by MedStar or AirCare. The service provider will bill the patient's insurance and the patient will not receive a bill for the remaining cost," according to the agenda summary.

Gulf Shores first contracted with AirMedCare in 2020 for the service and this renewal is the fourth at a cost of \$163,798. Citizens would be covered for any ground or air transports anywhere the company provides these services, not just in the city of Gulf Shores.

The city also announced that its Zydeco Crawfish Festival is expanding to two days in 2023 thanks to a \$30,000 grant from Gulf Shores and Orange Beach Tourism's Sports and Events Commission. The dates for 2023 are April 21-22.

"The Waterway Village Merchants Association was awarded a \$30,000 grant including \$20,000 to enhance the event and \$10,000 to market the event," city spokesman Grant Brown said during a Dec. 5 joint work/regular council session. "To take advantage of this we've added a Friday event, a ticketed concert creating this two-day event hoping to attract overnight visitors as well as give local residents and day trippers an opportunity to enjoy the set-up from the evening function on Friday and for the actual Zydeco Crawfish Festival itself."

Brown is also the director of Recreation and Cultural Affairs for the city and his department has been working to put together music for the concert on Friday, April 21, and the regular festival on Saturday, April 22.

"The Friday date which would be a 5-9 p.m. ticketed concert at the location of the fest is a new addition to this event," Brown said. "The main fest will take place Saturday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m."

Brown said the act for the Friday night event will be announced when the contract is finalized.

The event will include food and beverage vendors, merchandise vendors and live music throughout the day and inflatables and bounce houses for the kids. There will be a shuttle service from Erie Meyer Civic Center downtown and from Meyer Park in the Gulf Pines neighborhood.

"One big question that always comes up is how do we handle the parking and transportation," Brown said. "Shuttles will be in service and coordinated parking locations with the churches in the vicinity and businesses that are close to this area. There will be a lot of pedestrian and bicycle access and there is on-street parking available in the Waterway Village District."

The festival is part of the city's effort to develop a second destination for visitors and residents other than the sugar-white sand beaches the Alabama Gulf Coast is famous for having. In the past year, at least three new developments in or close to the district have been announced.

Island Villa apartments on East 22nd Avenue and East Third Street were recently renovated and a pool and parking added to cater to vacation rentals. At the corner of East Second Street and

East 22nd Avenue an old mattress store is being gutted and renovated to accommodate a wine and cheese shop on the ground floor and four one-bedroom vacation rentals on the top floor.

Angie and David Swiger recently announced their plans to renovate the old Frith's Bait Shop location at the corner of East Second Street and Canal Road into a mobile vendor court, retail space in the bottom floor of the main building and a five-bedroom vacation rental on the upper floors. There is also a cottage on the property that will be used as a one-bedroom vacation rental.

Already in place are Big Beach Brewing, Tacky Jacks, Acme Oyster House, The Sloop, the Gulf Coast Arts Alliance's art studio and Steven Dark's Pottery Central studio. LuLu's at Homeport Marina anchors the northern part of the district.

Permits are in the works to build a pedestrian bridge over the Intracoastal Waterway at East Second Street to make the connection between north and south portions of the district.

"As the continued development of the Waterway Village moves ahead with a pedestrian bridge with a park-type opportunity on the south side and the north side and creating this new opportunity within this district," Brown said. "I feel like this is a good opportunity to begin seeding merchants' association to allow them to continue to promote activities within their location."

During the meeting, the council also:

- OK'd a public assembly permit for the Shaka Beach Bash Volleyball Tournament on March 31-April 2 for the adult tournament and April 1 for the junior tournament. The event will be on the beach near the Gulf Shores lifeguard office.

OK'd a public assembly permit for the Springhill College tournament at the Gulf Shores Open on March 2-4 using eight courts. There will be nine college teams participating and additionally there will be a junior tournament on March 4 using 12 courts. This event will also be on the beach near the lifeguard office.

OK'd a public assembly permit for the Gulf Shores Mardi Gras parade on Feb. 21 with the staging area on West Beach Boulevard and the route will be from State Route 59 east to traffic light at the Gulf State Park Lodge.

Confirmed Nora Mandoki to serve a term of three years on the Personnel Board expiring in March of 2025 replacing Randy Kaiser. And, Sherry Hoffman's term on the Library Advisory Board expires on Nov. 1 and she would like to be reappointed to another term lasting through Nov. 1 of 2026.

Appropriated \$100,000 to the Coastal Alabama Business Chamber in support of "ongoing small business assistance and economic development efforts."

Updating controlled beach parking including updating the fee schedule to make it \$15 for a whole day and the four-hour permit will remain \$5. Director of Recreation and Cultural Affairs Grant Brown said changes would be coming near Bahama Bob's Café at the West Fifth Street beach access and the Gulf Shores Beach Retreat at the West 10th Street Beach Access. The city has 442 paid parking spaces in the program, 90 in the free residents-only lot at East Gulf Place and the city is considering adding 108 new paid spaces at those three locations.

OK'd an annexation request from Fallon and Maureen Young for 1.85 acres at 22171 Cotton Creek Drive located on the south side of the road between Geno Road and Waterplant Road that leads to the Orange Beach Water Authority's treatment plant.



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1.75lt	Tanqueray Gin	\$27.99
750ml	Cointreau Liqueur	\$27.99

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750ml	Kendall Jackson Chardonnay	\$10.50
750ml	Josh Cellars Pinot Noir	\$12.99

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DECEMBER



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- 1 sliced pineapple
- 1 bottle claret
- 1 bottle of red wine
- 1/2 bottle of rum
- juice of 4 lemons
- juice of 4 oranges
- 1 pint water
- 1 lb. sugar
- grated rind of 1 lemon
- grated rind of 1 orange
- 4 whole oranges cut into pieces
- 1 cinnamon stick, broken up
- 1 vanilla bean
- 1/2 cup maraschino cherries
- champagne

Boil spices thoroughly with the water. Remove them and pour the water into a large pot. Add all the fruit, juice, rinds and sugar. Then add wine and rum, cover and heat. Add champagne before serving. Should provide about 2 dozen servings.

### CHAMPAGNE COCKTAIL

- 75oz Cointreau
  - 3oz cranberry juice
  - champagne (w/ prosecco)
- Chill all ingredients. Pour Cointreau and cranberry juice into a champagne flute and stir. Top with champagne.

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## WHAT'S HAPPENING

- Overcomers Outreach: 7 p.m.; First Baptist Church of Orange Beach; 980-1705.
- Kiwanis Club of Big Lagoon: 7:30 a.m.; (1st, 3rd, and 4th Tue); Point Baptist Church, 13801 Innerarity Point Rd., Pensacola.
- Foley Kiwanis Club: noon; Vallarta's, 1145 S. McKenzie St., Foley; 859-771-6091.
- Al-Anon: 7 p.m.; Lillian United Methodist Church, 12770 N. Perdido St.

**WED, DEC 28**

- Zoe Burdett: 6; Rotolos Pizza; Fairhope.
- Danny Grady: 3:30-5:30; Papa Rocco's; Gulf Shores.
- Mac Walters: 6; Tacky Jacks; Fort Morgan.
- Adam Holt: 5; Lucy Buffett's Lulu's at Homeport Marina, Gulf Shores.
- 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.

- Shawn Lackey: 5; Doc's Seafood & Steakhouse; Beach Rd., Orange Beach.
- Robert Broom: 5; American Legion Post 44; Foley.
- Island Quilters Guild: 9:30; Gulf Shores Activity Center, Gulf Shores.
- John Brust: 6; Ms. Nancy's Lobby Lounge at Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach.
- Gary Story & Friends: 8; Sandshaker at The Wharf; Orange Beach.
- John Joiner & Darrel Roberts: 6; Hub Stacy's, Innerarity Point.
- Smokey Otis & Mark Laborde: 7;

- Papa 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.
- Open Jam: 7:30; Good Time Charlie's; Foley.
- Bingo: 10 a.m.; American Legion Post 99; Foley.
- Open Mixed Doubles Tennis: 7:15 a.m.; all levels; Gulf Shores Tennis Center.

- Food Bank: 9-11 a.m every Wednesday, Perdido Bay Baptist Church, 12600 Sorrento Rd. Pensacola; call for eligibility requirements at (850) 492-2604.
- Bread Ministry: 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Orange Beach United Methodist Church Brook's Center.
- Food Ministry For Hungry Families: noon-1 p.m.; Grace Lutheran Church, corner of West 23rd Ave. and West 4th St. in Gulf Shores; 251-968-5991.
- Gulf Shores Lions Club: noon; 2nd & 4th Wednesday; noon; Adult Activity Center; 251-968-2823.

## ORANGE BEACH CITY COUNCIL

# O.B. seeks Restore Act funds for Wildlife Rehab Center expansion

**By John Mullen**

During the renovation of the Orange Beach Medical Arts Building, additional water damage was found in the walls after construction began.

At the Dec. 13 council meeting, the council voted for a change order to include repairing the damage found during the renovations and causing an increase of \$89,330 to the original project amount of \$549,612.

Council is also seeking to add nearly \$500,000 in Restore Act money to help complete the new center for the Orange Beach Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Program under construction on Powerline Road. During the joint work/regular session on Dec. 6, the council will consider authorizing staff to seek Restore Act funds to help with the expansion of the facility in the amount of \$424,450. It will be for the build-out of the interior of the center's new building.

During the Dec. 6 session, council discussed:

- Have a second reading on an ordinance change for a planned unit development for Top Tier Watersports to construct a building and docks to run a dolphin cruise and watercraft rental business. It is located on Cotton Bayou north of Cotton's restaurant.
- Approving an events liquor license for the Sassy Bass Sock Hop at The Wharf on Jan. 23 at the Orange Beach Event Center.
- Approving a special events liquor license for the JWC New Year's Eve at Heron Pointe at the Wharf on Dec. 31-Jan. 1.
- Awarding the bid for a Cross Lane dune walkover to repair damage from Hurricane Sally to Gulf Coast Dockmasters for \$48,899.
- Authorizing a contract with Sawgrass Consulting for land surveying services to subdivide the Coastal Resources office property on Walker Lane for \$3,500. According to the agenda, "this will include a metes and bounds legal description and exhibit drawing to be part of the Auburn University lease." Auburn is planning on building a re-

search facility and satellite campus on the city-owned property where the current dog park is located.

- Executing a lease renewal with the Bear Point Civic Association to give the city permission to repair the park and rebuild the pier on the south end of Mississippi Avenue on Bayou St. John. This will be funded at 95 percent by FEMA.
- Providing a commitment to develop the Orange Beach Stormwater Master Plan and ensure payment of funds for the plan from the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources through the Restore Act Water Quality Program. The total project cost is estimated to be \$250,000 with the Restore Act paying 75 percent or \$187,500 with the city paying 25 percent or \$62,500.
- A contract with Anne B. Gajda for golf instruction services for the Expect Excellence program. Gajda will have access to the Orange Beach Golf Center to conduct lessons and classes to give private lessons and in return Gajda will provide 20 hours of golf instruction for the afterschool program and at the city's public schools.
- Authorizing payment to Hillman Legal Strategies for services related to Alabama Ethics Commission Case No. 2021-0166 for \$13,000.
- Adding Caswell Lane to the roadway resurfacing project for \$19,800 paid to Arrington Curb and Excavation.
- Appointing a new member to the Orange Beach Board of Education to replace Tracie Stark who is leaving her position. She was appointed to a two-year term in March as a member of the original board of education in Orange Beach.
- A memorandum of understanding for an opioid settlement related to the McKesson and Janssen lawsuits. Local municipalities will be allocated 10 percent of these two settlements, according to the city agenda.
- Awarding retiring police officer John Simonson his duty weapons and badge as part of his retirement package.
- Authorizing a contract with Sawgrass Consulting for civil engineering and

land surveying services. This is a renewal of a two-year agreement.

- Authorizing a contract with GeoCon Engineering and Materials Test for geotechnical analysis and construction materials testing on city projects.
- Signing a contract with Wetland Services to delineate wetlands south of Cotton Bayou Trail for \$2,200.
- Giving \$1,000 to the Dauphin Island Sea Lab to help defray the cost of bringing a research boat and instructors to Orange Beach for school programs.
- A resolution amending the organizational chart for the city.
- Updating the list of volunteer firefighters and reserve police officers covered under the workers' compensation insurance.
- Extending the entertainment districts at The Wharf and SanRoc Cay Marina and Perdido Beach Resort.
- A contract with Coastal Ballet Academy for ballet instruction services.
- Appropriating \$75,000 to the Gulf Shores Airport Authority for FY 2023.
- Signing a contract for social media consulting and marketing services from Socialize Your Bizness. There is \$20,400 budgeted for 2023 on contract.
- Entering into an agreement with the Baldwin County Economic Development Alliance for \$12,500 "to support the goals and initiatives" of the agency.
- Appointing Spencer E. Davis as the city prosecutor and Paul Woodall of Birmingham "to handle city business with real estate transactions, public finance, economic incentives, and other specialized legal services as may be directed by the City Attorney."
- Executing two contracts with lobbying firms with Bob Riley and Associates handling the state legislature issues for \$10,000 a month and Van Scoyoc Associates for federal legislative issues at \$6,000 a month.
- Authorizing the city to host community events for residents and visitors to Orange Beach in 2023 including the city's Mardi Gras parade, Art Festival, Freedom Fest at The Wharf and the Christmas tree lighting at The Wharf.
- A resolution amending the fiscal year

budget 2023 for the city. Details of what those amendments are were not included in the agenda.

- A resolution amending the employees pay plan/job listing to accommodate the approved 2023 budget. No details of what those amendments are were included in the agenda.



### City honors Renee Gardner, Forrest Rogers

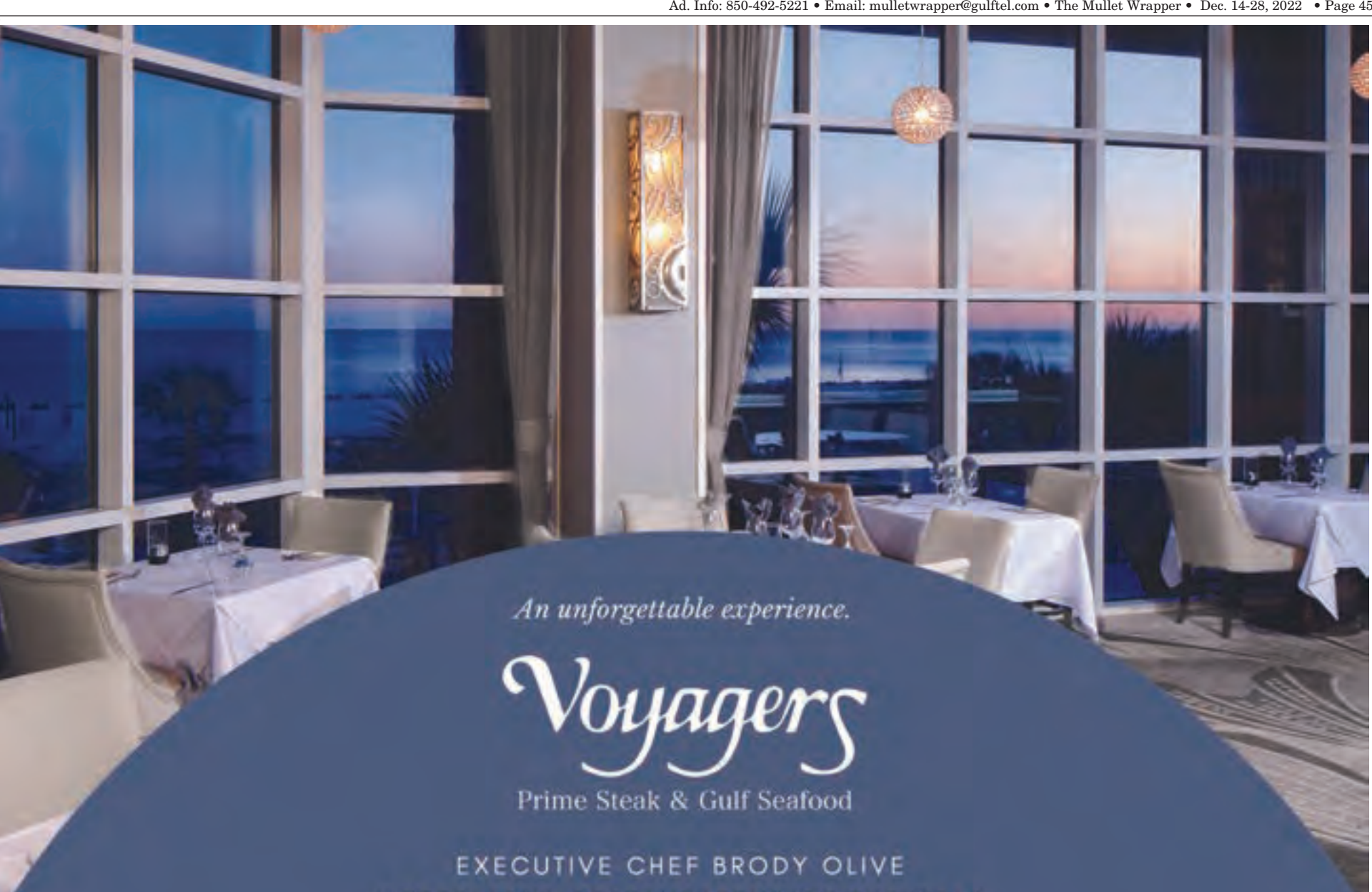
The city of Orange Beach congratulated Forrest Rogers as the 2022 Lifeguard of the Year and recognized Municipal Court Director Renee Gardner (pictured with Mayor Tony Kennon) for her longtime service working for the city at the council meeting on Dec. 6.

"Thank you for your 33 years of dedicated service to the city, Renée," a release from the city states. Gardner is retiring at the end of the year and she was presented with a key to the city.

The lifeguard award was voted on by Rogers' Orange Beach Surf Rescue lifeguard peers and it was a landslide vote. "Forrest is a unique person who never seems to have a 'bad day' and is a sponge for knowledge," a release from the city said. The glass award was made by the city's own Hot Shop artist Kerry Parks.







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# Funny Bones

By Ron "Bones" Jones



A man with authority walks into a bar.

He orders everyone a round.

A star-struck young lady was invited to a Hollywood Christmas party. She spied a star she was sure she knew and went up to him.

"I'm a huge fan!" she said. "Could I touch your neck?"

The actor stepped back and said, "What are you talking about?"

She blurted, "Aren't you Zach Woods?"

"No, I'm James Woods!" he answered with some annoyance. "I'm so sorry," she confessed. "I guess I was in the wrong neck of the woods."

• Lying around, pondering the problems of the world, I realized that at my age I don't really care at anymore.

• I finally got my head together, and now my body is falling apart.

• Kids in the back seat cause accidents. Accidents in the back seat cause kids.

• It's hard to make a comeback when you haven't been anywhere.

• The only difference between a rut and a grave is the depth.

A DEA officer stops at a ranch in Texas and talks with an old rancher. He tells the rancher, "I need to inspect your ranch for illegally grown drugs."

The rancher says, "Okay, but do not go in that field over there."

"Mister, I have the authority of the Federal Government with me," he replies as he removes

his badge and proudly displays it to the rancher.

"See this badge? This badge means I am allowed to go wherever I wish. On any land. No questions asked or answers given. Have I made myself clear?"

A short time later, the old rancher hears loud screams and sees the DEA officer being chased by the rancher's big bull. The officer is terrified.

The rancher runs to the fence and yells, "Your Badge. Show him your Badge!"

• Why is the third hand on the watch called the second hand?

• If a word is misspelled in the dictionary, how would we ever know?

• Why do we say something is out of whack? What is a whack?

• Why do "slow down" and "slow up" mean the same thing? Same with "fat chance" and "slim chance."

• Why are they called "stands" when they are made for sitting?

I can't afford to do an Ancestry DNA test to find out about my relatives. Instead I just posted online that I had won the lottery.

In the 1970's, I fell off my bicycle and hurt my knee. I'm telling you this now because we did not have social media back then.

• Walking can add minutes to your life. This enables you at 85 years old to spend an additional five months in a nursing home at \$7000 per month.

• My grandpa started walking five miles a day when he was 60. Now he's 97 years old and we don't know where the heck he is.

• I like long walks, especially when they are taken by people who annoy me.

• The only reason I would take up walking is so that I could hear heavy breathing again.

• I have to walk early in the morning, before my brain figures out what I'm doing.

• I do have flabby thighs, but fortunately my stomach covers them.

• If you are going to try cross-country skiing, start with a small country.

• Did you hear about the \$3 million Mississippi State Lottery? The winner gets \$3.00 a year for a million years.

• How do you know when

you're staying in a Mississippi hotel?

When you call the front desk and say, "I gotta leak in my sink," and the clerk replies, "Go ahead."

• How can you tell if a Mississippi redneck is married?

There's dried tobacco juice on both sides of his pickup truck.

• Did you hear that they raised the minimum drinking age in Mississippi to 32? It seems they want to keep alcohol out of the high schools.

• Where was the toothbrush invented? Mississippi. If it had been invented anywhere else, it would have been called a teeth brush.

• A Mississippi State trooper pulls over a pickup on I-65 and says to the driver, "Got any I.D.?"

The driver replies, "Bout wut?"

What did you buy your husband for his birthday?"

"Well, knowing he wanted a journal, I bought him one that looked since he's so particular about his notes."

"And surely you bought something for yourself too?"

"Of course! I made myself a duplicate key."

**Tallulah's treasures**

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**LIVE MUSIC**  
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We will be closed December 17th-25th. We will reopen at 11am on December 26th.  
**CALLS FOR GIFT CARDS CAN STILL BE MADE OVER THE PHONE WITH IMMEDIATE DELIVERY.**

**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** - sautéed 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 ..... **20.99**  
*over yellow rice. Served with one side dish*
- Crawfish Etouffee'** ..... **20.99**  
*Served with one side dish*  
*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** - lightly 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** - batter-dipped tenders, deep-fried. Served w/ honey mustard..... **10.00**
- Country Fried Steak** - served w/ cream gravy..... **10.00**
- Hamburger Steak** - (5 oz) char-grilled & served w/brown 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**

Served Daily  
3:00pm - Close

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

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

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 14 YEARS IN A ROW  
**Best Dinner**  
 14 YEARS IN A ROW  
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 14 YEARS IN A ROW

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**Lunch Special \$10**

Includes Tea & Bread

Monday: Fried Chicken 2 Sides

Tuesday: BBQ Meatloaf 2 sides

Wednesday: Chicken & Dumplings 2 Sides

Thursday: Beef Tips over White Rice 2 Sides

Friday: Chef's Special



## AROUND TOWN

### New Year's Day Polar Bear Dip at Gulf Place

The 12th Annual Polar Bear Dip will take place on New Year's Day, Saturday, January 1, 2023, at HIGH NOON, rain or shine, at the Gulf Shores Main Public Beach (at The Hangout: 101 E. Beach Blvd). Take the Plunge into the Gulf of Mexico for this uniquely coastal, family-friendly event presented by the Kiwanis Club of Gulf Shores in partnership with The Hangout, The City of Gulf Shores, and the Alabama Law Enforcement Torch Run.

Dress up in a wacky outfit or just show up and be a part of this uniquely coastal event. The beach party starts at 10 AM with beachfront entertainment by DJ Saint Nic. Enjoy the beach bonfire, games, and entertainment as we countdown to take the DIP at high noon, followed by a NEW YEAR'S DAY party at the Hangout, featuring LIVE entertainment, free chili & hot chocolate for everyone who takes the plunge, and all of the football games on TV. The event is totally free! Polar Bear Dip souvenir T-shirts (\$20) will be available and donations are encouraged with 100% of the proceeds benefit the Gulf Shores Kiwanis Club and Alabama Special Olympics.

Trish Smathers, President of the Gulf Shores Kiwanis Club said, "We are looking forward to the 12th Annual Polar Bear Dip, which has become one of the area's most anticipated yearly traditions. sunThere is no better way to bring in the new year than by taking a dip in the gulf from our beautiful Alabama beach... or just come out to enjoy the party!

"We invite all of our locals, snowbirds, and visitors to join us in bringing in 2023 Gulf Coast style."



### New Year's Day Polar Bear Dip another good reason to go to Flora-Bama

At the crack of noon, neither rain, sleet, too much NYE or bitter cold will prevent more than 1000 mostly costumed crazies from jumping into the Gulf of Mexico for the Annual New Year's Day Polar Bear Dip on the Alabama/Florida state line.

This is the 40th year the Flora-Bama has hosted its dip, and an all day celebration

with live music and football games on 24 big screen TV's will follow. For more information call 251-980-5118 or 850-492-3048 or visit flora-bama.com or facebook. A traditional feast of black-eyed peas, cornbread, ham and a draft beer or soda pop goes to all dippers.

**Pictured:** Big fun at Polar Bear Dip 2021.



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### Season's Greetings

As you reflect on this year and dream of the next year, let us help you plan for and realize the possibilities of your future – for you, your family and generations to follow.



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 251-968-9010



Email your shots to [mulletwrapper@gulftel.com](mailto:mulletwrapper@gulftel.com)

## PICTURES OF THE WEEK



Beautiful, majestic oak tree at entrance to Gulf Shores Sportsplex. Denis Hendrickson, Brigadoon Trail.



Sheila Ballew Knox titled this photo "And what are you up to?"



West beach sunrise by Phillip Thomas



"Kristan Aduddell having fun at the beach in mid Nov. with her parents, retired, four year Gulf Shores residents Rick and Becky Aduddell."

# The Family Event of the Year!

## NOON YEAR'S EVE

**Saturday, Dec. 31st**

**Fun Starts at 10am**

**Lucy Buffett's LuLu's**  
Fun • Food • Music

- Arts & Crafts
- Face Painting
- Games for Kids
- Sand Castle Contest
- Kid-Safe Fireworks
- Live Music!

**Beach Ball Drop at Noon!**

[www.LuLusFunFoodMusic.com](http://www.LuLusFunFoodMusic.com)

200 East 25th Ave. • Under the Bridge in Gulf Shores • 251-967-5858

**LuLu's will close at 3pm on Dec. 31, and will be closed Jan. 1, 2023**







**MYSTICS OF PLEASURE & KREWE DE SWAN TASTE OF THE ISLAND**





**LIVE and IN PERSON in Gulf Shores, Alabama**  
**OUPV (Six Pack) License** February 13th-23rd  
**Upgrade to Master** February 24th-26th  
**Commercial Assistance Towing** February 27th  
**FIRST AID AND CPR** February 27th

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# A.Y.C.E. ROYAL REDS

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NEW POTATOES & SAUSAGE - \$12.99+TAX**

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The What, Which, Why, Where, When and How of CBD



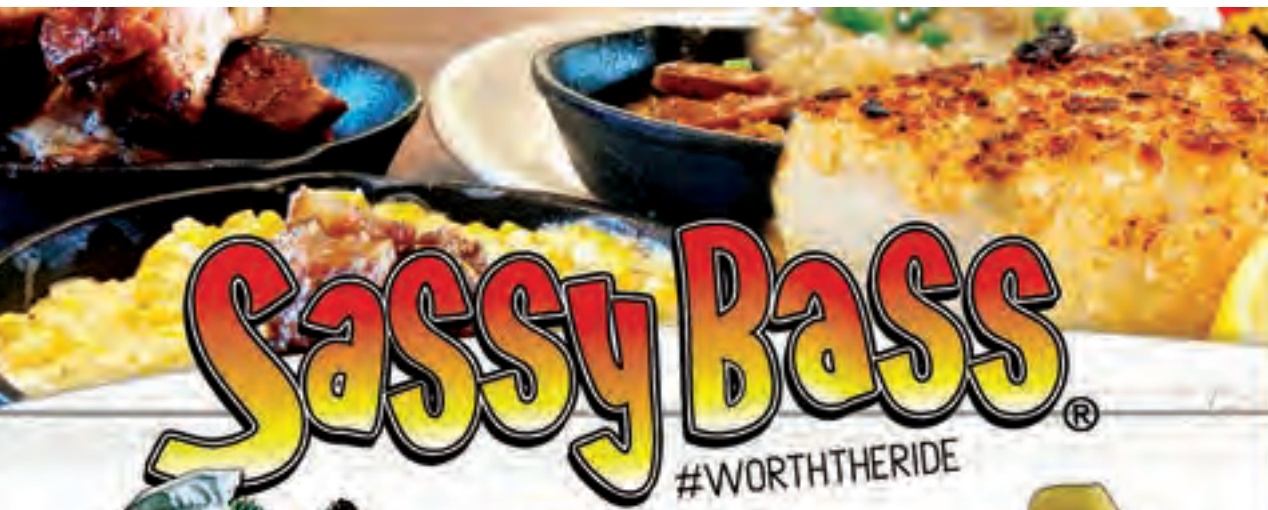
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### SOCK HOP

January 23, 2023  
Orange Beach Event Center  
Dance contest with prizes plus  
The Smokey Otis Band will play!  
Buffet included in ticket price.

### FORT MORGAN OYSTER FEST

February 25, 2023  
The Beach Club Resort & Spa  
Enjoy Fort Morgan oysters, live  
music, chef demos, and more than  
40 arts/crafts vendors.

MORE DETAILS AT:

**WWW.SassyBass.COM**

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