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# Gulf Coast *Snow* **BIRDS**

A Winter Visitor  
Publication  
Holiday 2015



## **Season's Celebrations**

*Gulf Coast Style*

**Snowbird Club News**  
pages 10-11

**Casino Entertainment**  
pages 16-17

**Farmers Markets**  
page 18

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# Gulf Coast *Snow* **BIRDS**



### ON THE COVER

Frances and Randy Brewer chose the sunny skies of Navarre, Fla., for their retirement destination where they enjoy volunteering, fishing, gardening and quilting.....8

INDEX

Publisher’s Welcome ..... 6

Snowbird Clubs ..... 10-11

‘Foley at 100’ ..... 12

Cruises Return to Mobile ..... 13

Holiday Calendar ..... 14-15

Beau Rivage Holidays..... 16

Casino Fun ..... 17

Farmers Markets..... 18

Holiday Lights..... 20

Sports Roundup ..... 21

New Year’s Eve Celebrations..... 22

Season’s Entertainment ..... 24

Historic Pensacola Village ..... 25

Thank You Snowbird Advertisers ..... 26

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# Welcome!

It seems we just said goodbye to you all.

As we prepare to mark our 10th year in 2016, I'm astonished by how quickly a decade has passed.

What I've found is the Snowbirds who arrive before January 1 typically are longer stay "winter visitors" or even more full-time residents than part time.

Many folks only return "home" during the hottest months on the coast, typically after July 4 through early October.

In this edition, our center two-page calendar is packed with things to do this holiday season. Christmas parades and celebrations, many "A Christmas Carol" performances and opportunities to take in a "Festival of Trees" event.

Many of these special events are tied to a charity that help support the region's most vulnerable including children and the homeless so I urge you to participate.

We also feature stories about regional concert and performance series, holiday lights and events and area sporting events. I tell people all the time that this generation of Snowbirds are on the move and they want to find out great things to do in neighboring communities.

Be sure to tuck us away for the season as we also list many of the Farmers Markets in the region in this edition. Take a selfie and let the folks "back home" know you are enjoying the great outdoors and eating fresh vegetables.

Then invite them down!

I look forward to being out and about this year. Be sure to sign up for our e-newsletter on our website [www.snowbirdsgulfcoast.com](http://www.snowbirdsgulfcoast.com) and also "Like" us on Facebook.

We've appreciated the great support through the years and look forward to another 10!

*As always, we are glad you are here!*

Karen Harrell  
Publisher@SnowbirdsGulfCoast.com  
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# Sunny skies draw couple to the Gulf Coast

Randy and Frances Brewer retired permanently along the Gulf Coast four years ago. Randy grew up in cold and snowy Chicago, Ill., where he still has family while Frances hails from the milder winters of Houston, Texas. The couple met in sunny, Orlando, Florida and have two children, Wesley, 23 and Anthony, 18.

Randy, 61, is fully retired after spending 40 years in the communications industry while Frances, 57, is employed locally as a Show Bookings Administrator of a locally owned and operated quilting tool manufacturer in Pensacola.

**Q.** Where did you relocate from and why?

**A.** We relocated from the Nashville Tenn., area because, although a beautiful place to live, we didn't like the cold, dark winters. We prefer warm, sunny weather and the Emerald Coast fits the bill. We spent many summer and fall vacations with our children on the Emerald Coast and just love the beautiful beaches. We're also a 1 day drive from family in Houston and Nashville, so geographically, it's convenient!

**Q.** How did you choose Navarre over other options?

**A.** Navarre came to be the most economical area for us. Plus it's conveniently located between Pensacola and the Fort Walton/Destin areas. We've come to really love Navarre. The longer we're here, the more we just love it. The people here are the best! Everyone is so friendly. It's not uncommon to have a conversation in the checkout line at the grocery store or Post Office, even waiting for a red light to turn green! That never happened in Nashville. We've met many interesting and fun people here!

**Q.** What are your hobbies?

**A.** Randy loves anything outdoors! He loves to fish, garden, cook, bake bread, kayak, spend time on the beach, and build things like decks! Frances loves anything outdoors, too! She loves spending time on the beach, kayaking, gardening, cooking, and all things sewing. She is active in the Santa Rosa Quilt Guild of Gulf Breeze, a member of the Crestview Chapter of The Modern Quilt Guild and a member of The American Sewing Guild-Pensacola Chapter.

## Advice?

*Prior to relocating, take advantage of vacation time to check out areas you're considering relocating to and try to visit during off peak travel times. You'll have an opportunity to see the area in its natural setting. Get to know the locals. They're a wealth of info and most are happy to offer insider tips that help enhance your experience. Have fun. Trust your instincts and go for it!"*

**Q.** What areas do you volunteer?

**A.** Randy volunteers as the Vice President of the local Fishing Club for Holley By The Sea and in 2016 will take on role as Chair of the Garden Committee for the Panhandle

Butterfly House in Navarre.

Frances makes and contributes dresses to the "Little Dresses for Africa" campaign and in 2016 will Co-Chair the Charity Quilt Committee for the Santa Rosa Quilt Guild.

**Q.** Do you have special places you like to go (ie. attractions particularly regionally.)

**A.** We are still learning about the Florida panhandle, but some of our favorite places are the beach (of course... any local beach as they are all gorgeous), Blackwater River for kayaking and canoeing, and St. George Island.

**Q.** Fran, tell us about the stories of the quilts in your lap.

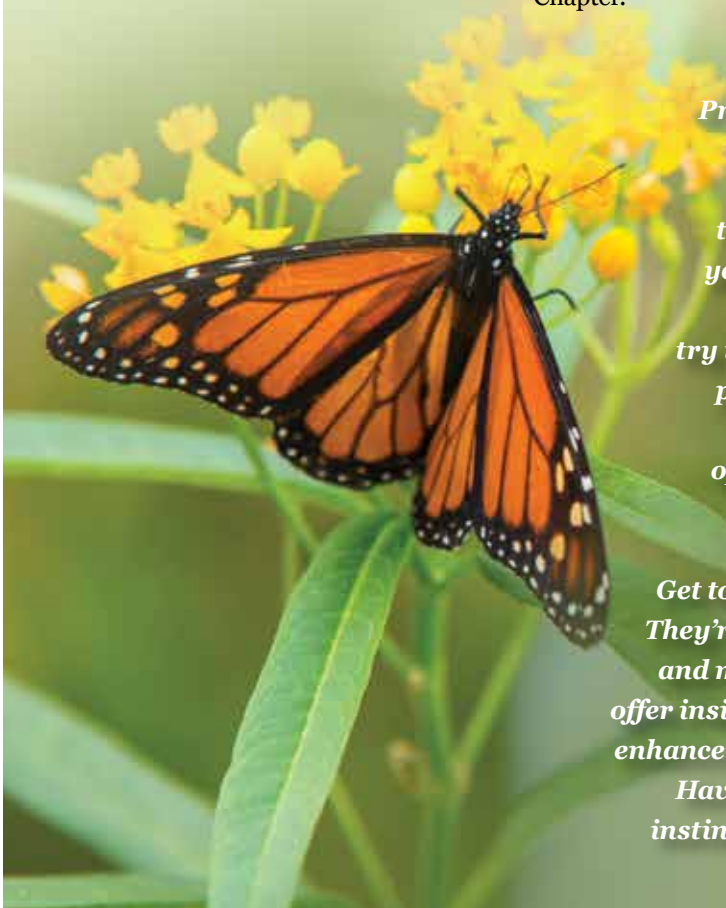
**A.** The one in my lap was started by my Mom when I was about 5 years old. It was her 2nd quilt to ever make but she never finished it as our home was flooded by big rains. It was packed away until about 15 years ago, when I carried it around intending to complete it. Well, I finally got around to it about a month ago! The fabrics are truly retro because they are remnants from clothing my mom made for every member of

my family back in the 60's! My sisters and I will have fun reminiscing about all those old clothes we remember each other wearing! The one on the back of the chair is the 2nd quilt I made. The fabrics in it came from blankets made by my Mom for the Blanket Ministry she created about 20 years ago through her church in Sugar Land, Texas. I plan to give it to her for Christmas this year and yes it is a surprise! The other colorful

one was the very first quilt I made after seeing Eleanor Burns (the Queen of Quilting) demonstrate her strip quilt method on PBS one afternoon.

**Q.** Randy, how did you discover the Panhandle Butterfly House and why did you get involved?

**A.** I originally noticed the gardens there when we first bought our home. Then I saw on their website they were looking for volunteers and since I love digging in the dirt, I contacted them. No matter where I've lived I've always been in a garden, vegetables mostly but Frances has always been a flower lover so I help dig, plant, fertilize, and mulch. The real bottom line is for the PBH to educate the community and increase public awareness about the butterfly's challenge in today's environment and provide a sanctuary for them on their migration.





# Retirement (2nd) Looms

I discovered our cover couple from February 2009 at my nearby UPS store when I went in to ship out some copies of Snowbirds Gulf Coast. “We’re Snowbirds!,” said Linda Schiessl who opened the Gulf Breeze, Fla., store nearly 10 years ago along with husband, Wally.

They were early adapters of what is an increasing trend – working Snowbirds. Their love of golf and weariness of winter’s snow, ice and gray days helped put their relocation plan in motion.

The couple would squirrel away nearly all of their vacation each year to take an extended vacation usually to Destin, Fla.

The decision to uproot from their home in Port Washington, Wis., took a leap of faith. Their plan was hastened along when Wally’s job in management with a Fortune 200 company was eliminated and he chose early retirement. The couple were both in their early 50s and not yet ready to retire and the rest is history.

Full time retirement, however, is beckoning in the next year as the couple have found a buyer they hope will nurture and grow their business with the same care they have over the past decade.



Linda and Wally Schiessl



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## Snowbird Clubs

Send your club news to Publisher@  
SnowbirdsGulfCoast.com

### PUBLISHER'S NOTE:

Stay in touch throughout the year! Don't forget to sign up for our new e-newsletter 'Seasons' to stay up to date. We reach more than 5,000 Snowbirds in each edition. Each year new Snowbirds find the Gulf Coast through this magazine and are looking for things to do, people to meet and recreational opportunities.

### EMAIL SUBMISSIONS:

[publisher@snowbirdsgulfcoast.com](mailto:publisher@snowbirdsgulfcoast.com).

**QUESTIONS?** Call Karen Harrell at 850-291-1266

**VOLUNTEER!** Nearly all of the Snowbird clubs and organizations listed here are volunteer based. One of the best ways to meet people and give back to your winter home is to volunteer with one of the clubs or events that are staged throughout the winter. Most organizations have unfilled needs. Don't wait to be asked! A little time is usually all that is needed. Make a difference!

### FLORIDA

**PENSACOLA BEACH:** The Pensacola Beach Community Church welcomes Snowbirds to its monthly potlucks always held on the fourth Sunday of the month plus other church activities to include a winter Trivia night and other social events. Details: 850-932-6628 or <http://thebeachchurch.com/church-events.html>

St. Ann Catholic Church in Gulf Breeze also hosts the 'Fun Bunch' senior group meeting at 11:30 a.m. every third Tuesday. Complete Details: [www.stanngulfbreeze.org/stann/?page\\_id=330](http://www.stanngulfbreeze.org/stann/?page_id=330)

**PERDIDO KEY:** Each year the Perdido Key Chamber of Commerce hosts a monthly Snowbird Roost for the winter visitors. Vendors participate by handing out local information, brochures, 'goodie bags' as well as door prize giveaways throughout the luncheon. It is only \$5 to attend and includes a delicious lunch. The Roost will be held at the Perdido Bay Community Center (13660 Innerarity Point Rd, Perdido Key, Florida). Details: 850-492-4660

**OKALOOSA TDC:** The Island Dance Party will be held from 6 p.m.-midnight on Feb. 13, 2016 at the Emerald Coast Conference Center, 1250 Miracle Strip Pkwy, Okaloosa Island, Fla. The event will include a live band playing 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s music. Tickets are \$10 per person and proceeds will be donated to the Special Operations Warrior Foundation. Details: [www.islanddanceparty.com](http://www.islanddanceparty.com)

**WALTON COUNTY SNOWBIRDS:** Season dues are \$9 and registration is held 30 minutes before each meeting. Entertainment for the Jan. 6 meeting is Eclipse and Jan. 20 REDD Sings. 10 a.m. at Destin United Methodist Church, 200 Beach Drive in Destin. Volunteers are needed in many areas and this is a great to meet new people and make friends. Snowbird activities are many from golf,

recreation and fitness to a singles group, arts, crafts, computer club, day trips and more. Details: [www.waltoncountysnowbirds.com](http://www.waltoncountysnowbirds.com).

**DESTIN:** The Roost is located at the Destin Community Center, 101 Stahlman Ave, Destin, Fla. Nov. 24, Dec. 1 and Dec. 8 meetings are at 10 a.m. Beginning in January 2016 there will be two meetings. Times are 8:30 and 11 a.m. New this year, the club will be taking donations "Space Age" calendar with proceeds to benefit the Alaqua Animal Refuge located in Freeport. Each weekly meeting features live entertainment. The club sponsors many activities including mixers, golf, fashion show, craft show bowling, casino trips, chorale and Christmas party. Boat Cruise date is Feb. 8. Details: <http://destinsnowbirds.org>

**FORT WALTON BEACH:** The Fort Walton Beach Snowbird Club is located on Okaloosa Island in Fort Walton Beach, Fla. With over 600 hundred members, the club offers many activities and events to its members besides the camaraderie and fellowship of others who are in Fort Walton Beach area to enjoy the warmer weather and beautiful beaches during the winter months. Meetings are on Tuesdays at The Elks Club from 10 a.m. to noon. Registration and meetings are at the Elks Club, 1335 Miracle Strip Pkwy SE, Fort Walton Beach, Fla. The club sponsors craft, cards, games, golf outings and social events. Details: [information@FWBSBC.com](mailto:information@FWBSBC.com) or [www.fwbsbc.com/](http://www.fwbsbc.com/).

**NAVARRE:** We are very excited for the 2015-2016 Season and can't wait to see you! A Navarre Beach Discount Card is in the works and the targeted launch is in early December. This will include an interactive map online that will list all the available discounts from local businesses. Stay tuned for info on where to pick up your Navarre Beach Snowbird Discount Card! If you are interested in helping to set up and/or run a program or volunteer to help with one of our projects, please email us at [Navarrebeachsnowbirdsclub@gmail.com](mailto:Navarrebeachsnowbirdsclub@gmail.com). Please include your contact info, where you stay here in Navarre, what dates will be you in the area this season and what you are interested in.

**PANAMA CITY:** In the absence of an organized Snowbird Club for the Panama City, Florida area, the Panama City Beach Senior Center fills the void as a state of the art facility to seniors who are 50 years of age and older. The beautiful Emerald Coast draws many retirees to the area as they and many locals, in increasing numbers, have found and learned to value the Center. The center is located at 423 Lyndell Lane, Panama City Beach, Florida. Membership is a minimal fee and covers the entire year. Details: 850-233-5065 or 850-236-3038. <http://pcbsc.com/>



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# Join the Club!



## ALABAMA

**FUNDRAISERS:** Tens of thousands of dollars are raised by the Alabama clubs for a variety of Gulf Shores and Orange Beach groups and organizations so be sure to set aside these dates for the major Alabama clubs' fundraisers. Feb. 6 - Bratfest; Feb. 13 - Pancake Breakfast; Feb. 13-Trivia Night; Feb. 16 - All Clubs 8-Pin Charity Bowling; Feb. 19- Low Country Boil; Feb. 25- Baldwin Heritage Museum Golf Scramble. Contact any club for information about these events.

**GULF SHORES MEN'S COFFEE CLUB:** The club meets at Gilbey's Restaurant at 25775 Perdido Beach Blvd in Orange Beach. The club will meet at the restaurant every Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. for coffee. The club also throws horseshoes on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays at noon at Meyer Park in Gulf Shores.

**ILLINOIS:** Dec. 18-noon; Lunch get-together at Cobalt (call Bruce Borino by 16th for reservation 981-7270). The 2016 Illinois Club "Welcome Back" coffee is Jan. 8 at 10 a.m. at Orange Beach Adult Center on Canal Rd. next to Library. Breakfast Meetings are scheduled at 8 a.m. on Jan. 15 & 29, Feb. 12 & 26, and March 11 at Cayman Grill (26189 Canal Rd, Orange Beach), Contact Glenn Philpott 618-978-1897 or gpott45@aol.com.

**INDIANA:** Indiana Club meets for breakfast at 8 a.m. on the second and fourth Thursday January-March, 2016. Location to be announced. Contact Bev Lockhart at 317-432-8708 for reservations.

**IOWA:** The 2016 Iowa-Alabama Snowbird Club will meet for breakfast (8:30 a.m.) at Perdido Beach Resort on 27200 East Beach Blvd. Perdido Ballroom, Conference Center, 1st floor. Jan. 13 and 27, Feb. 10 and 24. Details: Shari DeCook at 641-521-0929 or Sharon Hesselmann at 563-357-2721 for reservations.

**MICHIGAN:** The Michigan Snowbird Club will meet at the Erie Meyer Civic Center, 344 West 19th Avenue, Gulf Shores at 8:30 a.m. for coffee, meeting begins at 10 a.m. Jan. 7. The meetings include entertainment, announcements of Club activities, door prizes. [www.michiganclubalabama.com](http://www.michiganclubalabama.com).

**MINNESOTA:** Tuesdays in December, Lunch (11:30 a.m.) at The Diner, 2420 E 2nd St, Gulf Shores, AL. Details: [/www.mnal.org](http://www.mnal.org). January Meetings To Be Announced.

**MISSOURI:** The Missouri Snowbird Club will meet for breakfast at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesdays Jan. 13 and 27 at Perdido Beach Resort (27200 Perdido Beach Boulevard, Orange Beach). Business meetings are held at Phoenix V will alternate with breakfast. Trivia Night is set for 5 p.m. Feb. 13 at the Orange Beach Event Center at the Wharf. [www.mosnowbirds.org](http://www.mosnowbirds.org).

**NEW YORK:** The New York Snowbird Club will meet for lunch at 11 a.m. on the 2nd and 4th Thursday at Cayman Grill (26189 Canal Road, Orange Beach). Reservations required. Contact Frank Panczyszyn 251-981-3120.

**NORTH DAKOTA/SOUTH DAKOTA:** Meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in January and February and the 2nd Tuesday of March at 9 a.m. at Hazel's Seafood Restaurant, 25311 Perdido Beach Blvd., Orange Beach, Ala. Details: Joyce 605-351-0274.

**OHIO:** The 2016 Ohio Snowbird Club will meet at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, January 6 & 20, February 3 & 17 and March 2 at a Cayman Grill, 26189 Canal Rd, Orange Beach, AL. For complete information call Sharon Shock at 419-769-2199

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Breakfast meetings are 8 a.m. Wednesdays at Hazel's Seafood Restaurant, 25311 Perdido Beach Blvd, Orange Beach, Ala. Upcoming dates include: Jan. 6, 13 and 27; Feb. 3, 10, 24 and March 2 and 9. Potluck luncheons are noon Jan. 20 and Feb. 17 at the Orange Beach Presbyterian Church on Canal Road in Orange Beach, Ala. On selected Mondays (dates to be decided) we meet at 5 p.m. at O'Charley's Restaurant in Foley for iEat & Talk. Contact person year round: Rich Smith: 908-420-8806 or [bettyrich@rcn.com](mailto:bettyrich@rcn.com)

**SENIOR SNOWBIRDS:** A casual weekly potluck gathering of Snowbirds resumes on Thursdays starting Jan. 7 and running through March. Participants are asked to bring a dish to feed 10 and the cost is 50 cents. Table service and drinks are provided. Weekly at 12:30 at the Adult Activity Center, 260 Clubhouse Dr., Gulf Shores, Ala. Table service and drinks provided. Details: Michael O'Rourke 251-981-6060

**WISCONSIN:** Club meetings are held on the first and third Wednesdays beginning in January and running through March. The meetings are held at the Orange Beach community center on Canel Road in Orange Beach. There is a coffee and doughnut social hour prior to the meeting. The meeting begins at 9 a.m. with club updates by all of the committee heads and the president. Various items are raffled off during the meetings as well. The different social committee's all have info booths available with info on such things as golf outings, local as well as distant trips, fundraisers, lunch's etc. A full meeting and activity schedule is available at the club's website at <https://sites.google.com/site/wisconsinsnowbirdclub/> or Kenn Krouse, 251 967 2463.



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# 'Foley at 100'

New book celebrates first century of coastal Alabama city

Retired newsman, military veteran and Nebraska native Kent Cockson discovered the Alabama Gulf Coast the old-fashioned way – he married into it.



Kent Cockson

Cockson is the author of a new book “100 Years of Foley” – the hometown of his wife, the former Sylvia Staton, where the couple now live.

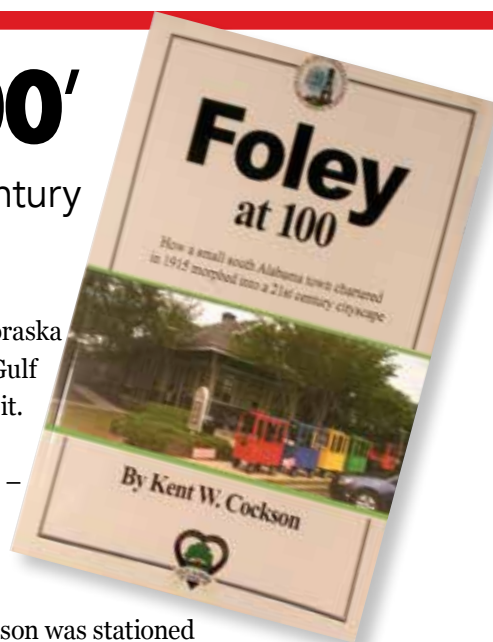
The couple met when Cockson was stationed at Fort Knox, Ky., and they married three years later.

Foley is a well-known outlet shopping mecca sandwiched between I-10 and Gulf Shores, Ala. Today the area also is becoming a popular retirement destination.

Cockson, 68, spent more than 40 years as a reporter, feature writer, editorial and column writer, copy editor and 15 years as executive editor or bureau chief in charge of news-gathering operations at several newspapers across the Southeast, requiring him to write and justify sometimes seven-figure annual newsroom expense budgets.

But until “Foley at 100,” he had never written a book – let alone a non-fiction book.

“It’s not your ordinary history book,” Cockson said. “My goal was to not only document the names, facts and dates pivotal to Foley’s history, but also to make those not from Foley who read the book sit back and say: ‘Hey! I think I have been to a town like that,’ or ‘Gee, that’s sounds like the town where I grew up.’”



## About the Book

- The first half is devoted to extensive interviews with 16 Foley-area residents who made a difference in the “middle years” of Foley’s expansion and development.
- The middle of the book contains 16 color pages featuring photos of before-and-after structures and institutions in Foley.
- The latter half of the book is a timeline from 1900 to the present, tersely listing by year the many people and events significant to Foley’s growth from a bare-bones camp in the woods grew to an agricultural mecca that morphed into a family-oriented town, then a city where – as the late Vince Whibbs, mayor emeritus of Pensacola, would say -- thousands of visitors live the way millions wish they could.
- The book contains the names of more than 1,300 people.
- At least 70 black-and-white photos are peppered throughout the text.
- Finally, “Foley at 100” is peppered throughout with “Foley Fritters” – vignettes long and short that feature various characters woven into the fabric of the city. Some will make you laugh. Others will make you cry. And many will make you wag your head in disbelief.

Cockson conducted extensive interviews with more than two-dozen key people. He also spent more than 200 hours at a microfilm reader in the Foley Public Library, aided by genealogy expert Jeanette Bornholt, who crafted a page in the book titled “10 things you might not know about Foley.”

*Read more about the people and personalities included in the book in an expanded article online at [www.snowbirdsgulfcoast.com](http://www.snowbirdsgulfcoast.com).*

## Want to buy the book?

**Cost:** \$20 plus tax.

**Available at:** The Historic L&N Railroad Museum in uptown Foley; The Book Exchange in uptown Foley; The Baldwin County Heritage Museum in Elberta; Page & Palette in neighboring Fairhope or by mail for \$25 (cost of the book plus \$5 for shipping and handling).

**To Purchase:** Checks or money orders made out to Kent Cockson should be mailed to him at 8100 State Hwy. 59; Foley, AL 36535.

## Reaction to “Foley at 100”:

*“I have just started reading your book, and I am learning so much about Foley. You obviously put hundreds and hundreds of hours in on the research and writing. And all that work shows in the finished product.”* - Dorothy (Dot) Brown, Foley

*“What a terrific accomplishment! Can’t wait to see your next venture. I am very proud of you for sharing your literary gift with our community. I really like your style. Example: “Wright place, right time.” Very catchy and clever!”*

- Sue Emmett, Birmingham (formerly of Foley)

*“Thank you for giving me a good dose of excitement, laughter and memories all wrapped into one beautiful treasure called Foley at 100. What an amazing gift you have given all of the citizens of Foley and south Baldwin County!”* - Sandy Russell, Foley

GULF COAST

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# Chocolate





## THE EXHIBITION

From **RAINFOREST TREASURE** to **LUSCIOUS TREAT** – immerse yourself in the story of *Chocolate*, an exciting and educational exhibition appearing at the Gulf Coast Exploreum Science Center from September 26, 2015 – January 17, 2016.

Sponsored by:



*Chocolate* and its national tour were developed by The Field Museum, Chicago. This project was supported, in part, by the National Science Foundation.



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## Carnival, City of Mobile Announce Year-Long Season of Cruises!

### Fantasy From Port of Mobile Beginning in 2016

Carnival Cruise Lines announced this fall that it would bring a ship back to the Mobile (Ala.) Cruise Terminal next year.

On its new schedule from Mobile, Carnival Fantasy will offer four-day cruises to Cozumel and five-day cruises to Cozumel and Costa Maya or Progreso from November 2016 to November 2017.

Prior to its deployment to Mobile, the 2,056-passenger Carnival Fantasy will undergo a multi-million-dollar refurbishment that will add several elements of the cruise line's popular Fun Ship 2.0 product enhancement program, including Guy's Burger Joint, developed in tandem with Food Network star Guy Fieri, two poolside watering holes, the RedFrog Rum Bar and BlueIguana Tequila Bar, and the BlueIguana Cantina Mexican-themed eatery.

On this route, Carnival Fantasy departs the Mobile Cruise Terminal Thursdays on four-day "long weekend" cruises to Cozumel and on Mondays and Saturdays on five-day voyages to Costa Maya or Progreso. Each of these destinations are popular for their beautiful white sand beaches, interesting historical sites and attractions, and excellent snorkeling, scuba diving and water sports.

During the day-long call in Progreso, guests have the opportunity to visit Chichen Itza, one of the Seven Wonders of the World, and while in Cozumel guests can visit ancient Mayan ruins or enjoy the destination's wide range of shopping and dining experiences.

At Costa Maya guests can explore the centuries-old Chacchoben ruins or visit the Lost Mayan Kingdom, a multi-million-dollar water-themed attraction currently under construction that will feature spectacular slides, an elaborate lazy river, a suspended ropes course that spans the property and more.

Carnival Fantasy will undergo a multi-million-dollar refurbishment in early 2016 that will add a number of terrific onboard options. These include Guy's Burger Joint, a complimentary poolside dining venue serving handcrafted burgers and fries created by the poplar chef and restaurateur, all enjoyed amidst lively interiors that celebrate Fieri's California roots and love of car culture.

Located adjacent to Guy's Burger Joint is the Blue Iguana Cantina offering authentic handmade burritos and tacos along with an elaborate toppings and salsa bar. Also located poolside is the Caribbean-inspired RedFrog Rum Bar offering the region's top rums and beers as well as the BlueIguana Tequila Bar with margaritas, Mexican beers and other frosty libations.



Carnival Fantasy also features a 12,000-square-foot spa, a WaterWorks aqua park featuring a 300-foot-long slide and a kiddie splash, and a Serenity adults-only retreat, as well as fun, supervised programs for kids ages 2-17, full casino gambling and a wide array of dining options, including a 24-hour pizzeria.





# Holiday Events CALENDAR

**12/13 Destin Harbor Boat Parade**, Destin Harbour, Destin FL. The Destin Harbor will be dancing with holiday lights and cheer during the 28th annual Destin Boat Parade. Enjoy live music, performances. Boat Parade begins at 6 p.m. Details: [www.emeraldgrande.com](http://www.emeraldgrande.com).

## WEDNESDAYS

**Boardwalk Talks**, Estuarium, Dauphin Island Sea Lab Estuarium, 101 Bienville Blvd, Dauphin Island, AL. First and third Wednesdays, 11:15 a.m. The Northern Gulf Institute presents a series of informal conversations about all things scientific in the Gulf of Mexico region. FREE. Details: [www.disl.org/estuarium](http://www.disl.org/estuarium) or 251-861-2141

## SUNDAYS

**Americana Cafe Sundays**, Roberts Hall, 831 Florida Avenue, Lynn Haven, FL. The best touring Americana Musicians in the country perform weekly at the Legendary Roberts Hall in Lynn Haven, Fla. Concerts start at 4 p.m. and are preceded by an open mic at 3 p.m. This premier listening room features the best acoustic/lyric based music in this area. Admission: \$5. Details: 850-722-4915, 850-774-3561 or [Luckymudmusic.com](http://Luckymudmusic.com)

## thru 1/17

**Chocolate!** The Exhibit at the Gulf Coast Exploreum in Mobile, AL. This exhibit explores the rich natural and cultural history of one of the world's favorite treats, tracing chocolate from its origin in the rainforest to its status as a global economic commodity. Chocolate! and its national tour were developed by the Field Museum of Chicago and was supported, in part, by the National Science Foundation. Details: 251-208-6893 or [www.exploreum.com](http://www.exploreum.com)

## thru 12/19

**ADSO's Art & Crafts Christmas Market**, 17 First Street, SE, Fort

Walton Beach, FL. The Arts & Design Society's members host their annual Arts and Crafts Christmas Market featuring an assortment of reasonably priced special artistry, including jewelry, paintings, clay works, decorations, photographs and note cards, all created by the members. Details: [hartsdesignsociety.org](http://hartsdesignsociety.org) or 850-244-1271

## thru 12/25

(Wednesday, Friday and Saturday) **12 Nights of Lights**, The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin, Miramar Beach, FL. For the month of December, enjoy a festive light show in the Village of Baytowne Wharf Events Plaza set to your favorite holiday music every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday evenings at 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. leading up to Christmas. This sparkling event will also be featured during the holiday editions of the Wednesday Night Concert Series at 7 p.m.

## thru 12/25

**Festival of Trees**, 600 Grand Blvd, Miramar Beach, FL. Grand Boulevard's sixth annual iFestival of Trees will showcase more than a dozen uniquely decorated Christmas trees from area non-profit organizations. This event is free and open to the public. Details: [www.visitsouthwalton.com](http://www.visitsouthwalton.com)

## thru 1/31/16

**Baytowne On Ice**, Apex Skating Pavillion (located with the SanDestin Resort Complex), 9300 Emerald Coast Parkway, West Miramar Beach, FL. For those visitors who miss the cold and ice, the ice skating rink at The Village

of Baytowne Wharf is the perfect opportunity to get into the winter spirit. Details: 850-714-7614 or [www.baytownewharf.com](http://www.baytownewharf.com)

## 11/20

**Gallery Night**, Downtown, Pensacola, FL 5 - 9 p.m. Stroll through the charming brick walkways of Downtown Pensacola to experience an eclectic array of music, art and cuisine. Explore galleries and businesses featuring the works of dozens of local artists. Soak up the sounds of local musicians and the aromas of local cuisine as the energy of the evening carries you from venue to venue. Details: 850-417-7321 or [www.downtownpensacola.com](http://www.downtownpensacola.com)

## 11/21-22

**Creek Indian Celebration Days**, Florida Town Park, 3900 Florida Town Rd, Pace, FL. Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. | Sunday Noon - 5 p.m. 25th annual two-day event of intertribal dancing, displays and teaching of heritage and customs, great foods and large groups of Native American vendors with authentic crafts. Come be a part of this Pow Wow. Details: 850-516-6960

**Pensacola Model Train Show**, Hadji Shrine, 800 West Nine Mile Rd, Pensacola, FL. Saturday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Showcasing layouts and displays featuring all popular modeling scales including Z, N, HO, O, and G scales! Members of PMRC will also be offering clinics covering popular model railroading topics and techniques. Door prizes throughout the day. Details: 850-758-5902 or [www.pmr.us/](http://www.pmr.us/)

## 11/23

**Festival of Trees** at the Raney House, 128 Market Street, Apalachicola, FL. 5:30 to 7 p.m. Cocktail party with artist decorated trees on display and available for bid. Admission is \$10.00. Proceeds go to the historic Raney House

## 11/25

**Getting to Know the Natives** – Garden & Trail Tour, 109 Greenway Trail, Santa Rosa Beach, FL. 3 p.m. Enjoy a guided tour of the Native Plant Demonstration Garden and Trail at Northwest Florida State College (South Walton Center). Details: [www.visitsouthwalton.com/events](http://www.visitsouthwalton.com/events)

## 11/27-28

**Apalachicola Annual Christmas Celebration**, Downtown Apalachicola, FL. The Apalachicola Christmas Celebration will light up the lovely historic town of Apalachicola from 4-8 p.m. The streets will be lined with luminaries and filled with holiday spirit.

## 11/28

**Coastal Half Marathon and 5K Run** by Kaiser Realty by Wyndham Vacation Rentals, Orange Beach Sportsplex, 4389 William Silvers Pkwy, Orange Beach, AL. Details: 615-460-9927 or <http://www.team-magic.com>

## 12/1

**Orange Beach Tree Lighting**, Marlin Circle, The Wharf, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m., Join us for an evening of caroling, performances by local youth artists, Christmas medleys from Gulf Shores Chorale and Brass Bands, the annual reading of the Christmas story and lighting of the Christmas tree. Details: Angela Bateman, [abateman@cityoforangebeach.com](mailto:abateman@cityoforangebeach.com)

## 12/3

**Dauphin Island Heritage & Art's Annual Christmas Open House and Auction**, 918 Bienville Blvd., Dauphin Island. 6-9 p.m. Join us for this popular fundraiser including a live auction of unique gifts and experiences. "Blue Crab," a metal sculpture by Frank Ledbetter will be the grand prize (\$2,000 value). Tickets are \$10 and are now available at the Gallery. Details: [dauphinislandarts.com](http://dauphinislandarts.com) or 251-861-3300

## 12/4

**A Christmas Carol**, 2022 West 2nd St., Gulf Shores, AL. 7:30 p.m., By suggesting famous Christmas carols, this talented author incorporates appropriate music for the re-telling of this classic story. You'll meet all the great characters: Christmases Past, Present, and Future, Tiny Tim, Bob Cratchit, and, of course, Ebenezer Scrooge! Details: 251-968-6721 or [www.sbct.biz](http://www.sbct.biz)

**First Friday ArtWalk in Seaside**, Ruskin Place & Central Square, Seaside, Santa Rosa Beach, FL. Enjoy live music and view beautiful works of art and artist demos at the galleries and shops. Details: [sowal.com/event/first-friday-artwalk-at-seaside](http://sowal.com/event/first-friday-artwalk-at-seaside)

**Pensacola Symphony "Home for the Holidays,"** Saenger Theatre, 118 S Palafox Place, Pensacola, FL 7:30 p.m. Peter Rubardt,

Conductor | Ashley Brown, vocalist Join us for a special event featuring local Broadway star, Ashley Brown, in a festive performance with the Pensacola Symphony. Details: 850-595-3880 or [www.pensacolasymphony.com](http://www.pensacolasymphony.com)

**Holiday Faire**, First Presbyterian Church, 5203 Elmira St, Historic Downtown Milton, FL. Crafts, food, door prizes and raffle! Treat yourself to a little fun while getting that holiday shopping done! Noon-8 p.m. Details: 850-623-2510 or [www.fpcmilton.org](http://www.fpcmilton.org)

**Christmas on the River**, Riverwalk Milton, FL. The most beautiful expression of Christmas on the Blackwater River is Milton's lighted Christmas Boat Parade set against our city's waterfront Festival of Lights. Each year our community comes together, lights their boats and conducts one of the largest lighted boat parades in Northwest Florida. 8 p.m. Details: 850-529-3565

## 12/5

**Holiday Fresh Market**, in front of the Dixie Theatre Avenue E and Market St., Downtown Apalachicola, FL. Shop in a relaxed, hassle free environment. Buy hand-crafted Apalachicola specialties such as baked goods, artwork, wood carving, pottery, hand knitted goods. Details: 850-653-9419

**A Country Christmas**, Milton Community Center on Byrom St., North to James St., East on James Street to Stewart Street, South on Stewart Street to Elva St. 6 p.m. Details: 850-623-2339

**Holiday Faire**, First Presbyterian Church, 5203 Elmira St, Historic Downtown Milton, FL. Crafts, food, door prizes and raffle! Treat yourself to a little fun while getting that holiday shopping done! 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Details: 850-623-2510 or [www.fpcmilton.org](http://www.fpcmilton.org)

**Christmas Parade**, Harrison Avenue, Downtown Panama City, FL. Details: 850-763-8282

**Christmas in the Park**, Navarre, FL. Event includes Christmas parade, Mrs. Claus Bakery, entertainment, marketplace and more. Details: [www.navarrechamber.com](http://www.navarrechamber.com)

**Christmas Parade**, Town of Dauphin Island, AL. 11 a.m. Details: [www.townofdauphinisland.org](http://www.townofdauphinisland.org)

**Christmas Open House** at the Camp Walton Schoolhouse, Heritage Park and Cultural Center, 139 Miracle Strip Pkwy SE, Fort Walton Beach, FL. The beautifully decorated Camp Walton Schoolhouse Museum. The Garnier Post Office Museum and Civil War Exhibit building will also be decorated for an old-fashioned celebration. Noon-4 p.m. Details: <http://fwb.org/museums> or 850-833-9595

**Sand Dollar Saturday & Local Marketplace**. Sand Dollar Plaza. 1900 Hwy 87, Navarre FL. Just 1/4 mile north of Hwy 98. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Details: [www.facebook.com/sanddollarsaturdays](http://www.facebook.com/sanddollarsaturdays)

**4th Annual NWF Car Show** Podiatry Association Diabetes, Crowne Plaza, 200 E Gregory St., Pensacola, FL. 8 a.m.-1 p.m.



The Northwest Florida Podiatry Association in conjunction with the Step Out to Stop Diabetes Walk is proud to announce our 4th Annual Classic Car Show/Cruise In. As always, all proceeds will benefit the American Diabetes Association. Details: 850-477-9015 or [www.dapodiatrycarshow.com](http://www.dapodiatrycarshow.com)

**Pensacola Beach Lighted Boat Parade,** 735 Pensacola Beach Blvd. Pensacola Beach, FL 6 p.m. The nautical parade, from Pensacola Beach Marina to Boardwalk, officially delivers Santa Claus to the island. Details: 850-932-1500 or [www.pensacolabeachchamber.com](http://www.pensacolabeachchamber.com)

### 12/5,12,19

**"A Dickens Christmas"** by Emerald Coast Theatre Company. Harborwalk Village Veranda Room, 10 Harbor Blvd. Destin, Fla. Experience a unique adaption of Charles Dickens' famous story, "A Christmas Carol" in this up close and intimate setting. Three talented professional actors seamlessly change from character to character as they bring to life the tale of Scrooge and his transformational night with three ghosts.

Details: [www.emeraldcoasttheatre.com](http://www.emeraldcoasttheatre.com), call 850-687-1637 or [www.emeraldgrande.com](http://www.emeraldgrande.com)

### 12/6

**Surfing Santa Beach Parade,** Via DeLuna to Casino Beach, Pensacola Beach, FL 2 p.m. Holiday floats wind their way down Santa Rosa Island's main street. Santa rides atop his red fire engine and visits with children. Details: 850-932-1500 or [www.pensacolabeachchamber.com](http://www.pensacolabeachchamber.com)

**32nd Annual "Christmas through the Ages,"** Fort Gaines Historic Site, 51 Bienville Blvd., Dauphin Island, AL. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Christmas through the Ages, a living history day for the whole family, is scheduled at Fort Gaines on Dec. 6. Come and experience a Christmas of Days gone by at Fort Gaines Historic Site, located on the eastern tip of Dauphin Island. Join the Soldiers from the past and their families as they celebrate a non-commercial Christmas. Visiting children will have the chance to make a seashell ornament. Details: 251-861-6992 or [www.dauphinisland.org](http://www.dauphinisland.org)

### 12/8

**8th Annual Chocolate Affair,** Foley Civic Center, 407 E. Laurel Avenue Foley, Alabama, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. Family Promise of Baldwin County, inc will be hosting our 8th Annual Chocolate Affair, a gala event to benefit homeless families with children in our program. Chocolate Affair will have silent and live auction items, desserts and heavy hors d'oeuvres, and live music by local musician, Mel Knapp. Details: 251-947-7035 or [www.familypromisebc.org](http://www.familypromisebc.org)

### 12/12

**29th Christmas Boat Parade of Lights,** Panama City Marina & St. Andrews, Panama City, FL. 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. Details: [pcboatparade.com](http://pcboatparade.com) or 850-890-2047

**Tuba Christmas & Holiday Lantern Parade,** 9100 Baytowne Blvd. #120, Miramar Beach, FL. Over 30 brass instruments play all the holiday classics. Followed by the 6th Annual Holiday Lantern Parade where

decorated paper lanterns and golf carts stroll the streets. 5-8 p.m. Details: [www.baytownewharf.com](http://www.baytownewharf.com)

### 33rd Annual Pensacola Christmas

**Parade,** Downtown Spring & Garden Streets, Pensacola, FL 5:15 p.m. The Christmas Parade includes local bands from every high school in Escambia County, groups from around the region, and as far away as Houston and New Orleans

**30th Annual Christmas Lighted Boat Parade,** Intracoastal Waterway Canal, 5-8 p.m. The 30th Annual Christmas Lighted Boat Parade at LuLu's at Homeport Marina and travels the intracoastal waterway. Details: Orange Beach Fishing Association 251-981-2300 or [www.alabamacostalchristmas.com/event/2014-lighted-boat-parade](http://www.alabamacostalchristmas.com/event/2014-lighted-boat-parade)

**Yule of Yesteryear - Christmas Festival,** Museum Admission. Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida, 115 Westview Ave Valparaiso, FL. Details: 850-678-2615 or [heritage-museum.org](http://heritage-museum.org)

**Carrabelle Holiday on the Harbor,** Carrabelle Riverfront, Carrabelle, FL. Join in the Fun with Your Family and Friends. All Boats Welcome. Fireworks Show Finale. Details: 850-697-2585 or [www.carrabelle.org](http://www.carrabelle.org)

### 12/13

**Ugly Sweater Pub Crawl,** Via DeLuna to Casino Beach, Pensacola Beach, FL. Don your tackiest holiday sweater and hop around Pensacola Beach's bars and restaurants with friends. Details: 850-932-1500 or [www.pensacolabeachchamber.com](http://www.pensacolabeachchamber.com)

### 12/1-4

**Festival of Trees 2015: "Christmas by the Bay"**, Marina Civic Center, 8 Harrison Ave, Panama City, FL. This family tradition has become one of the premier events to kick off the Christmas season. With a week full of special events and the Marina Civic Center filled with decorated items for auction, this event will appeal to any shopper or visitor. Schedule of Events: Preview Gala-Tuesday, Dec. 1, 6 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., Ladies Brunch- Wednesday, Dec. 2, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m., Afternoon Tea- Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m., General Admission- Thursday, Dec. 3, 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. and Friday, Dec. 4, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. \$5 Adults, \$3 Kids, \$15 Families. Details: [pcrmission.org/events/opportunities-festival-of-trees](http://pcrmission.org/events/opportunities-festival-of-trees) or 850-769-0783

### 12/15

**Baldwin Pops Band Concert,** Gulf Shores Civic Center, 7-8:30 p.m., The Baldwin Pops Band, conducted by Dr. Roger Jones, will present a holiday concert at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15 at Gulf Shores Civic Center. Details: 251-987-5757 or [www.baldwinpopsband.com](http://www.baldwinpopsband.com)

### 12/16

**Boardwalk Talks,** Dauphin Island Sea Lab Estuarium, 101 Bienville Blvd, Dauphin Island, AL 36528. These brief talks are free and the series will cover a broad range of topics. Details: [www.disl.org/estuarium](http://www.disl.org/estuarium) or 251-861-2141

### 12/16-20

**Bethlehem Christmas Village,** Capt. Anderson's Marina, 5550 North Lagoon Drive, Panama City Beach, FL. Stroll the streets of Bethlehem, pet the animals, and experience the music of Christmas. Register for the Census, listen to the tales of Obadiah and learn the Candy Cane Story. Bring an unwrapped toy or canned good to donate to a different charity each night. Admission is free! Details: 850-234-3435

### 12/18

**Gallery Night,** Downtown, Pensacola, FL 5 - 9 p.m. Stroll through the charming brick walkways of Downtown Pensacola to experience an eclectic array of music, art and cuisine. Explore galleries and businesses featuring the works of dozens of local artists. Soak up the sounds of local musicians and the aromas of local cuisine as the energy of the evening carries you from venue to venue. Details: 850-417-7321 or [www.downtownpensacola.com](http://www.downtownpensacola.com)

### 12/18-12/20

**The Nutcracker,** Saenger Theatre, 118 S. Palafox Place, Pensacola, FL Friday & Saturday, 7 p.m. | Sunday, 1:30 p.m. Experience the magic of this beloved holiday classic featuring the tale of young Clara and her Nutcracker Prince. Share the enchantment with your family as you journey through a glistening winter wonderland and the whimsical Land of the Sweets. Details: 850-595-3880 or [www.pensacolasaenger.com](http://www.pensacolasaenger.com)

### 12/19

**Holiday Pops Concert,** Seaside Ampitheater, Seaside, FL. Don't miss this special holiday performance from Pensacola's Symphony Orchestra guaranteed to get everyone into the holiday spirit! Details: [www.seasidefl.com](http://www.seasidefl.com)

### 12/20

**The ARTWalk on The Destin Harbor** is a vibrant marketplace, bustling with street performers, live music, a the perfect way to spend the day and browse through this unique art market. This event and parking is free and open to the public. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Details: [www.emeraldgrande.com](http://www.emeraldgrande.com)

### 12/21

**A Christmas Carol,** Saenger Theatre, 118 S. Palafox Place, Pensacola, FL 7:30 p.m. A Christmas Carol features a spirited ensemble of 23 performers who bring Dickens fable of redemption to life on a magical set created by noted designer James Othuse. A full array of timeless carols such as God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen, Away In a Manager and Here We Come A-Wassailing are interwoven within the classic story of a tight-fisted, middle-class merchant Ebenezer Scrooge and all the beloved characters from Dickens' 1843 novel. Details: 850-595-3880 or [www.pensacolasaenger.com](http://www.pensacolasaenger.com)

### 12/19

**"Make It To The Line"** 4-Mile Run/Walk & 1-Mile Fun Run, Flora-Bama, 14701 Perdido Key Dr. Perdido Key, FL. Individuals and families up to three members can compete. Details: 850-492-0611 or [www.florabama.com](http://www.florabama.com)

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10 YEARS OF SYMPHONY REDEFINED



## BROADWAY HOLIDAY

with Morgan James

Friday, December 11, 2015 7:30pm  
DESTINY WORSHIP CENTER



## MADE IN AMERICA®

with Jamie Bernstein & Julia Bullock  
Friday, January 29, 2016 7:30pm  
DESTINY WORSHIP CENTER



## MIRO QUARTET

Friday, February 12 &  
Saturday, February 13, 2016 7:30pm  
ROSEMARY BEACH TOWN HALL

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# Tie the Beau on the Holidays



**BEAU RIVAGE RESORT & CASINO** celebrates the season with dazzling displays, dining specials and a spectacular holiday ice show. Each year the region is dressed in holiday finery but none so grand as the Beau Rivage Resort & Casino in Biloxi, Miss.

The resort welcomes guests of all ages to its annual holiday celebrations and events including a new show Santa & Friends on Ice staged in the Beau Rivage Theatre set for Dec. 1-27. Tickets start at just \$12.95.

On display through the New Year, stunning larger-than-life

nutcrackers, magnificent oversized ornaments, frost-covered trees, classic winter scenes, thousands of white and red poinsettias

Always popular is the annual Holiday Open House, Dec. 5 from noon. to 5 p.m. The shopping promenade will feature local artists and vendors showcasing specialty items. Carolers will be singing holiday favorites and guests can enjoy gourmet dining samples from Beau Rivage's award-winning culinary team.

"For more than a decade, Beau Rivage has captivated guests with its must-see displays, affordable family entertainment and holiday



## If you go

- What:** Beau Rivage holiday show "Santa and Friends on Ice."  
**Location:** Beau Rivage Resort and Casino, 875 Beach Blvd, Biloxi, Miss.  
**When:** Dec. 1-27. Tuesday-Friday 7 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will also feature 3 p.m. performances.  
**Tickets:** Start at \$12.95 plus tax and service charge. Ticket packages are available at a discount for groups of four or more an military. Weekday hotel packages start at \$99 and include one night accommodations and two show tickets using code: **HOLIDAY15**.  
**Details:** [www.beaurivage.com](http://www.beaurivage.com) or 888-750-7111

festivities," said Beau Rivage General Manager Marcus Glover. "We look forward to spreading holiday cheer during one of the most joyful and beloved times of the year."

A frozen winter pond made of real ice will be featured for professional skaters and other performers. Santa Claus is joined by Mrs. Claus, his elves, and others as they mingle seasonal classics, such as "Jingle Bell Rock" and "Santa Claus is Coming to Town," with modern routines.

Guests can enjoy a snowfall at every show.

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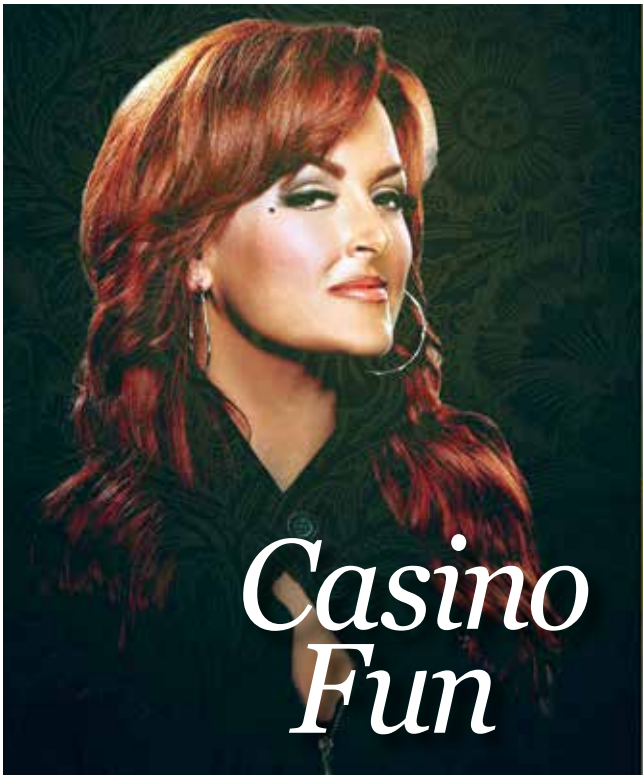
Destin, Ft. Walton, Mary Esther, Perdido Key **(800) 446-0886**  
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**For more information visit our website**  
**www.goodtimetours.com**

Must be 21 yrs of age or older. \*Casino amenities subject to change without notice.





**12/18 Wynonna & The Big Noise Christmas**

Wynonna's career has always revolved around telling stories. Whether she's using her rich, commanding voice to sing one of her countless hits or sitting down for a bold, sincere television appearance, Wynonna always gets her point across with unflinching honesty and wisdom gained over the course of her very public life. In short, she's not one to shy away from speaking her mind, and that's what made her ventures in the world of literature and television so intriguing. 8 p.m. IP Casino Resort & Spa, Studio A, 850 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, MS. Details: 228-436-3000

**11/27 Jamey Johnson**

Eleven-time Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter Jamey Johnson is "one of the greatest country singers of our time," according to the Washington Post. He is one of only a few people in the history of country music to win two Song of the Year Awards from both the CMA and ACMs. 8 p.m. IP Casino Resort & Spa, Studio A, 850 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, MS. Details: 228-436-3000.



**12/18-19 A Blue Christmas Featuring Brandon Bennett's Elvis Christmas Show**

The renowned Elvis impersonator will perform three shows featuring the King of Rock-n-Roll's Christmas Classics. Showtimes: 12/18, 8 p.m. and 12/19, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$9.99. Hard Rock Casino 777 Beach Blvd., Biloxi, Miss. Details: (877) 877-6256 or (228) 374-7625 or www.hardrockbiloxi.com.



**12/4 Brian Wilson, Guests Al Jardine & Blondie Chaplin**

He is one of popular music's most deeply revered figures, the main creative force behind some of the most cherished recordings in rock history. Indeed, it is no exaggeration to call Brian Wilson one of the most influential composers of the last century. 8 p.m. IP Casino Resort & Spa, Studio A, 850 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, MS. Details: 228-436-3000

**12/26 Straight Outta Comedy with Earthquake, Arnez J & Special Guest**

The life and times of Comedian Earthquake reads like an unlikely happenstance that has fallen into divine rightness. Everyone knows the story, he didn't have an epiphany about his career, but what everyone is missing, is that somehow somehow he is standing right where he needs to be. 8 pm IP Casino Resort & Spa, Studio A, 850 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, MS. Details: 228-436-3000.



**12/31, 1/1-2 Abba, Arrival from Sweden**

ARRIVAL From Sweden is one of the world's most popular and best-selling ABBA show bands and since the start in 1995, the production has toured 48 nations and appeared in several TV and radio shows all over the world. Dec. 31, 10 p.m., Jan. 1 & 2 8 p.m. IP Casino Resort & Spa, Studio A, 850 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, MS. Details: 228-436-3000

**1/8 Joe Nichols**

One of country music's most praised traditional country artists, Nichols has six #1 hits and eight Top 10 singles to his credit including chart-toppers like "Brokenheartsville," "Tequila Makes Her Clothes Fall Off," and "Gimmie That Girl." The star has earned multiple RIAA platinum and gold certifications for his hit albums and singles. 8 p.m. IP Casino Resort & Spa, Studio A, 850 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, MS. Details: 228-436-3000.



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CP20381



# Farmers Markets

One of the great aspects of being in the south in the winter is the wide availability of fresh vegetables and fruits. Farmers Markets have become a popular way to source fresh food – and discover local artisans.

**Here is a partial list of markets:**

## SATURDAYS

**Seaside Farmers Market**, 25 Central Square, Santa Rosa Beach, FL. Seaside Farmers Market takes place in the Seaside Amphitheater every Saturday rain or shine! 8 a.m.  
Details: <https://www.facebook.com/seasidefarmersmarket>

**Palafox Market**, Downtown Pensacola, Fla. This market stretches more than two blocks and is open year-round. Locally grown vegetables, home-baked goods, arts and crafts.  
Details: [www.downtownpensacola.com](http://www.downtownpensacola.com)

**Grand Boulevard Farmers Market** at Sandestin, 600 Grand Boulevard, Miramar Beach, FL. The outdoor market will feature dozens of unique vendors offering locally sourced food items. On the artisanal and green side, the Market will offer flowers, herbs, soaps and lotions. 9 a.m. Details: 850-499-4697

**Ocean Springs Fresh Market**, 1000 Washington Ave., Ocean Springs, MS. At the L&N Depot. Details: [www.oceanspringfreshmarket.com](http://www.oceanspringfreshmarket.com).

**Real Market** Downtown Gulfport, Miss. Located on 27th Ave., between 13th and 14th Streets. Details: [www.realfoodgulfcoast.org](http://www.realfoodgulfcoast.org).

**2nd & 4th Saturdays: Apalachicola Farmers Market**, Mill Pond Pavilion, 479 Market St., Apalachicola, FL. Local seafood, produce, herbs, and honey, homemade breads and pies. Relax under the live oaks that grace the Farmers Market on the Mill Pond off Scipio Creek. Details: 860-918-35945



**TUESDAYS AND SATURDAYS: Coastal Alabama Farmers Market**, County Road 20 & Hwy. 59. Foley, Al. Details: Heather 251-597-5557.

## SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS:

**Grand Lagoon Waterfront Market**, Capt. Anderson's Marina, 5550 North Lagoon Drive, Panama City Beach, FL. A hub for Panama City Beach's fresh food. Find the freshest seafood, specialty foods like cheeses and pastries, and an array of hard-to-find spices.  
Details: <http://www.captanderson.com/market>

## SUNDAYS

**WaterColor Coastal Farmers Market**, Cerulean Park-WaterColor, WaterColor, FL. Fresh from the farm produce, milk, cream, butter, ice cream, eggs, grass-fed beef, beef jerky, all natural-free range chicken, pork products and sausages. Fresh local seafood, crabcakes, tuna and shrimp dips. 9 a.m. Details: 850-499-4697

**30A Farmers Market** in The Rosemary Beach Community, 28 South Barrett Square, Rosemary Beach, FL. The 30A Farmers Market is an International Farmers Market Event, featuring locally grown farm fresh fruits and veggies, foods from around the world, as well as delicious food from the South. 9 a.m. Details: 850-499-4697.



## Look What's Cooking at ROUSES!

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# Holiday Lights



## Christmas Reflections

When you drive into the Historic District of DeFuniak Springs, Fla., during the holidays, you can't help but think you've stepped into a Charles Dickens Christmas Village.

A drive around the perfectly round spring-fed lake – one of the few anywhere – reveals Victorian homes beautifully adorned with traditional Christmas decorations set off by 6 million lights reflecting off the water.

Car riders roll down their windows to enjoy traditional Christmas songs. Horse-drawn carriages complete the ambiance with a “clop, clop, clop” - just as travelers did during the 1800s.

The Historic District is set on the grounds and campus of Florida's Historic Chautauqua.

Tickets are \$3 per person with children ages 6 and under free. Tickets are available at 5 p.m. daily at the gate on Live Oak and Circle Drive in DeFuniak Spring, Fla., located north of I-10 and Destin. Details: Carolyn Mora 850-974-6774 or [www.defuniaksprings.net](http://www.defuniaksprings.net).



## Pensacola Winterfest

Revelers are greeted by falling snow at the Pensacola Courthouse where they can climb aboard a number of trolley-themed tours. There are 16 performances along a 60-minute trolley trip through Downtown Pensacola.

Singing guides accompany you into a world of wonder with scenes from your favorite holiday memories. The storefronts and restaurants along Palafox Street, Seville Square and the blocks that encompass downtown are beautifully decorated and lit.

Performance Tours run Nov. 27, Dec. 5, 11, 18, 19, and 20. Tickets start at \$15. Purchase tickets at the Old Courthouse, 223 Palafox St., Pensacola, Fla. Details: 850 583-1365 or [www.pensacolawinterfest.org](http://www.pensacolawinterfest.org).



## 20th Annual Magic Christmas in Lights

Bellingrath Gardens and Home brings back the magic of the holidays with its annual lights display Nov. 27-Jan. 2, 2016.

More than three million twinkling lights and more than 1,000 custom-designed set pieces and 15 scenes scattered around the grounds of this popular attraction. Also, Bellingrath

Home is decorated in holiday finery giving visitors a glimpse of the home during its heyday. The gift shop is stocked with special holiday items. Bellingrath is located at 12401 Bellingrath Gardens Road, Theodore, Ala., west of Mobile. Details: [www.bellingrath.org](http://www.bellingrath.org) or (251) 973-2217



## Wales West Arctic Express

Take a ride through this winter wonderland aboard an authentic steam engine train. This attraction, designed to appeal to all ages, opens Nov. 27 and runs through Dec. 24. Wales West RV Resort and Light Railway located at 13670 Smiley Street, Silverhill, Ala. Riders will enjoy thousands of lights, snow, and

decorations to the North Pole. Children's activities include a chance to meet Santa and take a picture in the “Winter Wonderland Barn.” There is a café and a gift shop that offers train items. From Nov. 27, open weekends only Fri. - Sun., 3 p.m. – 9 p.m. and Dec. 15 nightly 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.; Open nightly Dec. 15 -24, 3 p.m. , 3 to 9 p.m.. Admission: \$15/person with 2 and under free. Details: 888-569-5337 or go to [www.waleswest.com](http://www.waleswest.com).



# SPORTS ROUNDUP



It's hard to believe but ice hockey has been going on in Pensacola for 20 years.

The Pensacola Ice Flyers are playing in the Southern Professional Hockey League. The sport started in 1995 as the Pensacola Ice Pilots, playing in the East Coast Hockey League until the team folded in 2008.

But new ownership brought in a new team the following year, so local hockey fans did not miss out on any action.

The SPHL features teams from as far away as North Carolina, Tennessee and Illinois. Teams feature young, talented players who hope to get a chance to reach the NHL.

The Ice Flyers won their first President's Cup title in 2013, handing the city its first professional sports championship.

To the east on Interstate 10 in Lafayette, La., is one of their main rivals, the Louisiana IceGators. They, like the Ice Pilots, were part of the ECHL until 2005. But it was four years before a team returned with new owners.

For ticket information, go to [www.pensacolaicelflyers.com](http://www.pensacolaicelflyers.com) or [www.icegators.com](http://www.icegators.com).



## Ice Flyers' Home Schedule

(Pensacola Bay Center)

Nov. 25 vs. Louisiana IceGators, 6:35 p.m.

Dec. 4 vs. Macon Mayhem, 7:05 p.m.

Dec. 5 vs. Fayetteville FireAntz, 7:05 p.m.

Dec. 18 vs. Louisiana IceGators, 7:05 p.m.

Dec. 26 vs. Mississippi RiverKings, 7:05 p.m.

Dec. 29 vs. Huntsville Havoc, 6:35 p.m.

IceGators' home schedule (Cajundome)

Nov. 28 vs. Huntsville Havoc, 7:05 p.m.

Dec. 4 vs. Fayetteville FireAntz, 7:05 p.m.

Dec. 6 vs. Fayetteville FireAntz, 3:05 p.m.

Dec. 11 vs. Pensacola Ice Flyers, 7:05 p.m.

Dec. 19 vs. Mississippi RiverKings, 7:05 p.m.

Dec. 20 vs. Pensacola Ice Flyers, 3:05 p.m.

Dec. 26 vs. Macon Mayhem, 7:05 p.m.

Dec. 27 vs. Macon Mayhem, 3:05 p.m.

## SNOWBALL DERBY

With the NASCAR season ending in November, most racing goes into hibernation in December.

Not in Pensacola.

All eyes turn to the half-mile track at Five Flags Speedway when the 48th annual Snowball Derby races on Sunday, Dec. 6.

The historic race has attracted many famous drivers over the years, from Bobby Allison to Darrell Waltrip (1976 winner) to Rusty Wallace to Kyle Busch (2009 winner). And future NASCAR drivers are competing.

Chase Elliott, son of Bill Elliott, won the Snowball Derby in 2011. Next year, he takes over the No. 24 car for Jeff Gordon, who is retiring at the end of this season. Last year's winner, John Hunter Nemechek is the son of former NASCAR driver Joe Nemechek.

More than 70 drivers are expected to compete for one of the 37 starting positions. The 300-lap race is heavily dependent on tire wear and avoiding the "big" wreck.

It is the culmination of four days of racing and seven races at the famed track, including Saturday's feature race, the Snowflake 100.

Tickets are available and more information is available at [www.fiveflagsspeedway.com](http://www.fiveflagsspeedway.com) or calling the track office at 850-944-8400.

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

The GoDaddy Bowl is moving from the end of the line to near the start of the college football bowl season. For the last several years, it was held on the first Sunday in January, the last bowl before the national championship game.

This year, however, it has moved to Wednesday, Dec. 23. It will be played at Ladd-Peebles Stadium in Mobile, Ala. Kickoff for the ESPN-televised game is 7 p.m. and the game pits teams from the Sun Belt Conference and the Mid-American Conference.

As of press time, there were projections that South Alabama, which plays its home games there, might be one of the teams.

Tickets are \$45 for sideline seats and \$15 for end zone. For more information, go to [www.godaddybowl.com](http://www.godaddybowl.com).

The New Orleans Bowl kicks off the college bowl season at 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 19, at the Superdome in New Orleans. The game features teams from the Sun Belt Conference and Conference-USA.

Recently, it's been the home game for the Louisiana-Lafayette Ragin Cajuns, who have won the last four New Orleans Bowl games.

For tickets and more information, go to [www.neworleansbowl.org](http://www.neworleansbowl.org).

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# New Year's Eve Celebrations

**Did you know that you can celebrate the New Year twice in one night? Revelers can start the New Year off in the eastern time zone in Port St. Joe, Fla., then travel to Mexico Beach, located in the central time zone for a second celebration.**

## OTHER CELEBRATIONS:

**PENSACOLA BEACH:** New Year's Eve Fireworks light the skies with dazzling fireworks at midnight.

**PENSACOLA PELICAN:** Throughout the evening a giant illuminated Pelican (14 feet tall, with a 20-foot wingspan) is perched above the celebration on a 100-foot platform at the intersection of Palafox and Government Streets. Festivities kick off at 3 p.m. on New Year's Eve and continue until 12:30 a.m. Details: [www.pensacolapelicanandrop.com](http://www.pensacolapelicanandrop.com).

**PANAMA CITY BEACH:** New Year's Eve Beach Ball Drop, Pier Park, 600 Pier Park Dr, Panama City Beach, FL. - Midnight. Details: 850-236-9974

**SEASIDE:** Countdown Seaside: A New Year's Eve Celebration, Seaside Amphitheater, 25 Central Square, Seaside, FL. Celebrate Countdown Seaside with live music in the Amphitheater and ring in the New Year with fireworks over the the Gulf of Mexico at Midnight.

**DESTIN HARBOR:** New Year's celebration at HarborWalk Village, 10 Harbor Blvd, Destin, FL. Dine, drink and dance into the New Year throughout HarborWalk Village. Enjoy live music in the restaurants as well as the HarborWalk Village Main Stage. 2 Fireworks and the 6th Annual Ball Drop descending over the Harbor make this celebration Destin's most exciting place to be on New Year's Eve! 7 p.m.

**GULF SHORES:** Holiday SPECTRA, The Wharf 4830 Main Street Orange Beach, AL. Enjoy a special edition of the sound & light spectacular down Main Street at 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. Details: [www.alwharf.com](http://www.alwharf.com).

**PERDIDO KEY:** The Flora-Bama's New Year's Eve Bash, Flora-Bama Lounge & Oyster Bar, 17401 Perdido Key Dr, Pensacola, FL. Live music on all three stages will be rocking' until the party stops. Food, party favors and champagne flow all night and help bring in the New Year the Flora-Bama way. 7 p.m. Details: 850-492-0611 or <http://www.florabama.com/>

**ORANGE BEACH:** New Years Eve Party at Perdido Beach Resort, 27200 Perdido Beach Blvd., Orange Beach, AL. Celebrate 2016 with a fabulous dinner, a New Year's Eve party you won't want to miss featuring live music by Band Camp, unique pyrotechnics, a champagne toast at midnight and much more! \$95. Details: 800-634-8001 or [www.perdido beachresort.com](http://www.perdido beachresort.com)

**SANDESTIN:** The Village of Baytowne Wharf, 9100 Baytowne Blvd. #120, Miramar Beach, FL Come dance the night away and enjoy breathtaking fireworks as they light up the sky! 7 p.m. LIVE entertainment until 1 a.m. FREE. Details: [www.baytownewharf.com/](http://www.baytownewharf.com/)

**MOBILE, ALA.:** Moonpie Over Mobile draws more than 60,000 people to downtown to celebrate the drop of the a gigantic version of the tasty dessert of Mardi Gras. Live entertainment and other activities lead up to the grand event. Details: [www.mobile.org](http://www.mobile.org).



## Sterling Stories

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**7** Northwest Florida Orthopedics

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**8** The Rehabilitation Institute of Northwest Florida

996 Airport Road • Destin  
 (850) 863-7651 • Inpatient Rehabilitation

**9** Florida Institute of Neuroscience

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**10** Seawind Medical Clinic

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**11** Seawind Medical Clinic

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 (850) 249-1000 • Family Practice  
 Same day appointments • Walk-ins welcome

**12** Gulf Coast Cardiology

2202 State Avenue, Suite 303, Panama City  
 (850) 872-3939 • Cardiovascular Surgery

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# Season's Entertainment



## SAENGER, PENSACOLA

Single show tickets are on sale for the full slate of 2016 Broadway season at the historic Pensacola Saenger Theatre located at: 118 South Palafox Place, Pensacola, Fla.

Shows include: Jan. 5 - The Producers, 7 p.m.; Feb. 3 - Annie, 7:30 p.m.; Feb. 23 - Stomp, 7:30 p.m.; March 19 - Bullets Over Broadway, 2 p.m., and April 6 - The Illusionists, 5:30 p.m. & 8:30 p.m.

Details: (850) 595-3880 or [www.pensacolasaenger.com](http://www.pensacolasaenger.com).

## DIXIE THEATRE, APALACHICOLA

Most folks have heard about the famed Apalachicola oysters but an entertainment venue in the "Forgotten Florida" area of the panhandle is nearly as famous.

The charming Dixie Theatre was built in 1912 as a live entertainment venue but later served as one of the country's first movie houses. Lovingly restored, the Dixie today serves up quality entertainment, particularly in the winter when the Snowbirds are in town. The Dixie Theatre is located at 21 Avenue E, Apalachicola, FL.

This season's schedule is packed full with toe-tapping music and lively comedies.

Jan. 9 - Tallahassee Swing Band - 3 p.m.; Jan. 16 - Pas de Vie Ballet - 3 p.m., 8 p.m.; Jan. 23 - Bob Milne: Ragtime Piano - 3 p.m., 8 p.m.; Jan. 30 - Tribute to Patsy Cline: Margo Anderson - 3 p.m., 8 p.m.; Feb. 6 - Spencer Bohren - 3 p.m., 8 p.m.; Feb. 13 - 34 West Theater: Groovy Kinda Love - 3 p.m., 8 p.m.; Feb. 20 - Oystertown: Musical Comedy - 3 p.m., 8 p.m.; Feb. 24 - Oystertown: Musical Comedy - 3 p.m.; Feb. 27 - Oystertown: Musical Comedy - 3 p.m., 8 p.m.; March 5 - Artie Rodriguez & the Classic Country Gold Band - 8 p.m.; March 12 - Sligo Line: Irish Music & Dance - 8 p.m.; March 19 - Earl David Reed: The Secret of my Unsuccess Comedy Tour - 8 p.m.; March 26 - Tribute to Jim Croce: John Reno & Brett Gambino - 8 p.m.; April 2 - Sarah Mac Band - 8 p.m.

Details: 850.653.3200 or [www.DixieTheatre.com](http://www.DixieTheatre.com)



## SINFONIA GULF COAST, DESTIN

Under the masterful direction of maestro Demetrius Fuller, Sinfonia Gulf Coast will mark its milestone 10th season as the region's only fully professional symphony orchestra by offering a stellar lineup of concerts and educational initiatives featuring the orchestra and world-renowned guest artists.

Sinfonia's annual holiday concert Dec. 11 at Destiny Worship Center, will feature orchestral arrangements of several seasonal classics and the return of Broadway singer and actress Morgan James.

Vocalist Julia Bullock, will take the Sinfonia stage Jan. 29 at Destiny Worship Center, performing in "Made in America" featuring selections by George Gershwin, Josephine Baker and Leonard Bernstein.

The annual Sinfonia chamber music weekend returns to the intimate setting of Rosemary Beach Town Hall on Feb. 12 and Feb. 13, featuring the world-renowned Miró Quartet. The grand finale April 9 features the legendary Preservation Hall Jazz Band from New Orleans. Details: [SinfoniaGulfCoast.org](http://SinfoniaGulfCoast.org) or call 850-269-7129.

## SAENGER, MOBILE

The historic Saenger Theatre in Mobile, Ala., has several upcoming shows.

On Dec. 16, straight from New Orleans fame,

Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue and Galactic plus New Breed Brass Band. Trombone Shorty appeared in several episodes of HBO's "Treme," and has recently appeared on "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, Jimmy Kimmel Live," "Late Night with Jimmy Fallon" and "Conan."

A holiday classic "A Christmas Carol" will be performed Dec. 9 and Jan. 9 is the "Black Jacket Symphony".

The Saenger Mobile is located at 6 South Joachim St., Mobile, Ala. Details: [www.mobilesaengar.com](http://www.mobilesaengar.com) or 251-208-7261.

## MARINA CIVIC CENTER, PANAMA CITY

A full slate of entertainment is scheduled this winter in Panama City at the Marina Civic Center located at 8 Harrison Ave., Panama City, Fla. The schedule includes: Dec. 17 - King's Brass, 7:30 p.m.; Jan. 2 - The Producers, 8 p.m.; Jan. 9 - Live from Nashville, 7:30 p.m.; Jan. 16 - Pop's Orchestra, 7:30 p.m.; Jan. 18 - 42nd Street, 7:30 p.m.; Jan. 24 - Aida Opera, 7:30 p.m.; Feb. 19 - Yanni, 8 p.m.; Feb. 25 - Patti Labelle, 7 p.m.; Feb. 27 - Chamber Orchestra Kremlin, 7:30 p.m.; March 6 - Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, 4 p.m.; March 12 - Pops Orchestra Stomp the House, 7:30 p.m. March 28 - Millon Dollar Quartet, 7:30 p.m.

Details: 850) 763-4696 or [www.marinaciviccenter.com](http://www.marinaciviccenter.com).



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## UWF Historic Trust Unveils New Interpretive Master Plan for Pensacola Historic Village

The University of West Florida Historic Trust unveiled its interpretive master plan this fall at the Museum of Commerce in Downtown Pensacola.

The Pensacola Historic Village already is a popular tourist destination and the plan is expected to build upon the rich historical and archeological assets of the 8.5 acre, 28-property complex and guide its next chapter.

The presentation also included concept sketches that gave guests a visual illustration of the planned enhancements for Historic Pensacola.

The plan's goal is to achieve the balance between resource protection, historical education, visitor and recreational use and enjoyment of the site through a series of appropriate and achievable enhancements.

UWF President Judith Bense, Vice President of University Advancement Brendan Kelly and Historic Trust Board of Directors Chair Jerry Maygarden presented the transformational vision for Historic Pensacola.

"Pensacola has an incredibly rich history that often flies under the radar," said Kelly, who also serves as CEO of the Historic Trust. "The interpretive master plan provides a strategic vision which will allow Historic Pensacola to embody a more engaging telling of that story."

The enhancements will benefit the community as a local resource for entertainment and education, but also as an economic engine for cultural heritage tourism.

"Our goal is to reposition this historic city in the minds of people living around the country," said Maygarden. "Pensacola's history can be more than just a reflection of the past; it can be an economic generator for the future. We have an opportunity to impact this region in a positive way through the UWF Historic Trust."

The Historic Trust – encompassing the T.T. Wentworth Jr. Florida State Museum, Historic Pensacola Village, Arcadia Mill Archeological Site, Voices of Pensacola Multicultural Center and Pensacola Children's Museum – has operated under the umbrella of the University of West Florida since 2001 and is a part of the Division of University Advancement.

The Historic Trust was originally formed by the governor and managed by the Department of State. Coming to UWF brought new resources, additional programs and tours, and renovations for its 28 properties. "We are now positioned to do things more professionally than ever before," said Robert Overton Jr., executive director of the UWF Historic Trust. "What we were really lacking was a cohesive vision for how to take this site to the next level. This is a playbook by which we can wrap our arms around our entire history and share it."

About the UWF Historic Trust: UWF Historic Trust is dedicated to collecting, preserving, interpreting and sharing the history of Northwest Florida. The Trust manages the Historic Pensacola campus of the University of West Florida, which includes 28 properties in downtown Historic Pensacola and the Arcadia Mill Archaeological Site in Milton.





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