A Winter Visitor Publication February 2020

Gulf Coast

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Clubs and Calendar pages 14-15, 16-17

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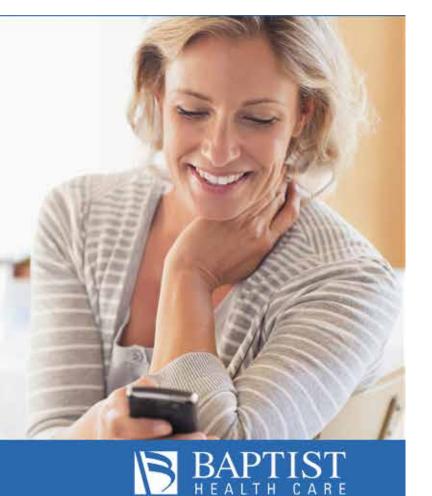
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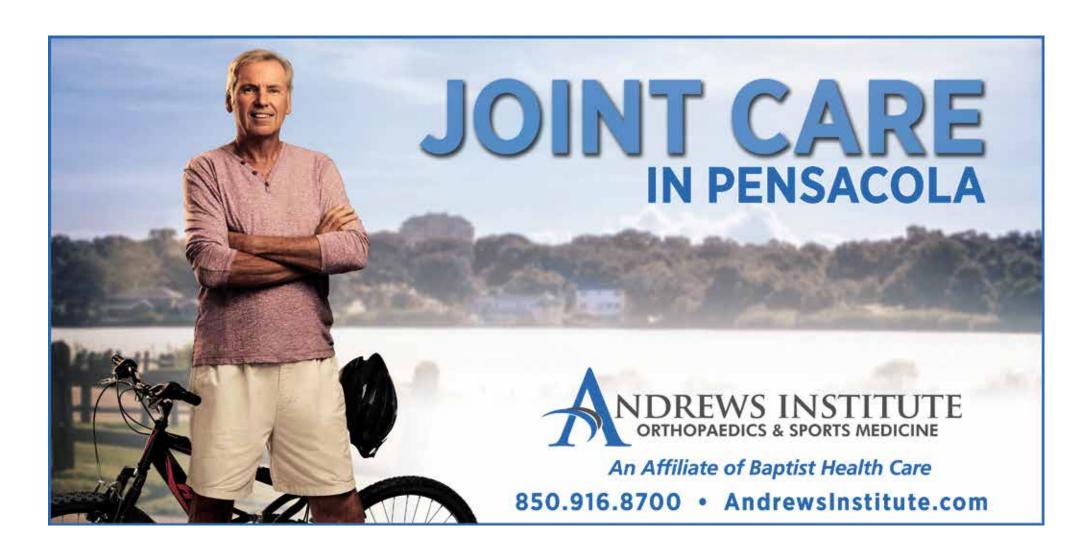
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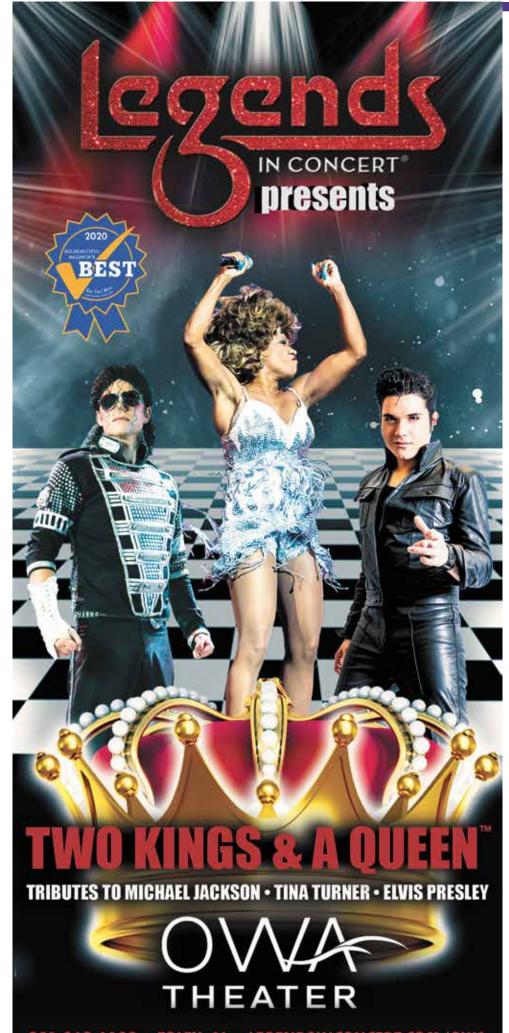
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ACTS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Welcome!

January was a fickle rollercoaster ride of a weather month!

We had it all...above-average temperatures warm enough for southern kids to swim in the Gulf; a fierce thunderstorm with tornado warnings; followed by a big chill-down with nighttime lows in the upper 20s.

Frankly, I don't have the clothes for all of this!

We started the New Year with good friends in a Gulf-front condo in Panama City Beach, and then I hit the ground running from event to event, as you will see from our "Snaps" in this edition.



As the Snowbird crowds have grown, area visitor bureaus have responded by offering a variety of fun activities geared just for you!

Our cover couple Carol and Roy DeWitt hail from Kansas by way of a lakefront home in Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. They just bought a two-bedroom Gulf-front condo in Orange Beach, Ala. which they've been renovating for themselves and the summer vacation market.

Owning a unit gives them the flexibility to come down during the popular fall festival season in October, host family whenever they want, spend the winter in a warmer climate and also realize summer rental income. They enjoy catching Chef Nino's cooking show each week at Rouses, attending church at the Flora-Bama and walking the nearby trails at Gulf State Park.

If you are a new or returning Snowbird, be sure to check out our clubs section for each area. There you will find ways and places to make friends and find activities. We recommend you volunteer for one of the fundraisers or a leadership position in the clubs if you can.

We will be back on the road again in February, so be sure to say hello. As always, have a wonderful winter and stay in touch. Keep up with what's going on through our Facebook page: Snowbirds Gulf Coast Magazine and sign up online for our e-newsletter Seasons.

Have a great February. Let's all collectively blow away any rain or cold winds. Enjoy your stay.

All the Best, Karen Harrell, publisher@snowbirdsgulfcoast.com



MAKE OUR COMMUNITY YOUR SECOND HOME

For visitors, Panama City Beach is everything from a beautiful escape to an exciting adventure. For us, it's the place we call home, and we couldn't imagine being anywhere else. Celebrate your home away from home with these special events.

WINTER RESIDENT SENIOR PROM FOOD TRUCK & CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL MARDI GRAS & MUSIC FESTIVAL WINTER RESIDENT GRAND FINALE

February 12 February 15-16 February 21-22 February 26

EMERALD COAST BOAT & LIFESTYLE SHOW EMERALD COAST CRUIZIN' SCOTTISH FESTIVAL UNWINED February 28 – March 1 March 4-7 March 7

March 20-21



PLAN AHEAD AT VISITPANAMACITYBEACH.COM



Kansas couple finds there's no place like Gulf Shores

Carol and Roy DeWitt discovered the Gulf Shores, Ala., area in 2014 when looking for a February winter escape.

They have returned each year for several weeks, but this past year made a bigger commitment - buying a Gulf-front condo in nearby Orange Beach.

Roy, 66 and Carol, 67, hail from Overland Park, Kansas – a suburb of Kansas City - and have five children and nine grandchildren. Their children all have successful careers, and in 2011, the couple decided to make their summer home at Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri their full-time residence. Their Orange Beach condo is now their winter residence, family getaway and also used as a vacation rental.

Roy started playing guitar at the age of 12 and turned his passion for music into his career. He (and Carol) owned and managed a large music store for 26 years, which started on a shoestring budget and grew to 10,000 square feet and 500 students per week. Roy retired in 2011 at age 57 after surviving stage 3 colon cancer. He and Carol are strong advocates for colonoscopies.

Carol retired two years ago from her full-time job as a senior manager with a large oncology company so she could help care for her aging mother. She moved in with her during the last six months of her life and said it was "time well spent."

Among her career accomplishments was connecting individuals with free or reduced fee drugs through programs she helped developed with manufacturers and a large insurance company. She also mentored dozens as they, too, built successful careers.

Carol's career involved being a "road warrior," but today she enjoys their home on the lake spending time with Roy fishing and in Orange Beach, the renovation of their 2-bedroom, 2-bath beach condo. The pair also enjoy traveling and sightseeing across the U.S.

During their travels, they discovered the Gulf Coast at Dauphin Island and then migrated east.



Their condo renovation is nearly complete with the second bed and bath still left to do. The couple spends free time exploring the area. They try to attend the weekly winter cooking classes at Rouses Markets, walk and hike local trails, visit attractions such as the Naval Air Museum in Pensacola and attend church in an unconventional setting – the famed southern honky-tonk, the Flora-Bama.

Their new beach condo has proven popular with their children and grandchildren who have vacationed there twice, including in July and October (they also rented a unit below them for the overflow.) They also hope to host friends who winter in Panama City Beach sometime before heading back to

Missouri.

The couple said being a Snowbird should be "everyone's goal." They are enjoying this new phase of life while celebrating aspects of their previous one.

They proudly proclaim their allegiance to their hometown team with "Go Chiefs!"





Winter Wednesdays at Bellingrath Gardens and Home, February 5-26, 2020

Want to learn in one of the most beautiful settings on the coast?

Check out the schedule for Winter Wednesdays at Bellingrath Gardens and Home in Theodore, Ala. Once known as "Belle Camp," the private home and gardens opened in 1932.

Bellingrath Gardens and Home encompasses approximately 900 acres along the Fowl River. The gardens feature live oaks, camellias, azaleas, roses, and chrysanthemums yearround. The garden estate started in 1917 as a rustic fishing camp for Walter Bellingrath, who founded the Mobile Coca-Cola Bottling Company in 1903.





Sessions are staged from 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. in the Magnolia Room. Cost is included in the regular Gardens admission price.

Registration is requested: To register, call 251-459-8864.

The February 2020 Winter Wednesdays schedule:

February 5: Winter Garden Walk -There is always something blooming at Bellingrath Gardens! February's blooms ususally include camellias, ornamental kale and cabbages, pansies, parsley, saucer magnolia, swiss chard, Taiwan cherries, tulips and violas.

Learn about the interesting winter borders and containers throughout the Gardens from Bellingrath's Horticulture Management Team: Chuck Owens, Horticultural Management Director, and Barbara Smith, Display Coordinator.

February 12: Raising Roses – Linda Guy, Bellingrath's



February 19: Author John Sledge - The author and historian

will discuss his new book, "The Gulf of Mexico: A Maritime History."

garden.

February 26: Camellia Waxing – Join Dr. Brenda Litchfield to learn about the fun of waxing



Author John Sledge

camellias and other flowers. After her demonstration, you will be able to wax your own blooms! Please bring one or two camellias to wax.



































Navarre Beach Welcome















Save The Date! The 28th Annual **Alabama Lifestyles Expo** Thursday, Feb. 6, 2020 - 8am - 1pm

Free admission and vendors from across the state in relocation, tourism, real estate, health care and more.

Orange Beach Event Center 4671 Wharf Pkwy. • Orange Beach, AL 36561



FWB Winter Guest Fest











EMERALD COAST

































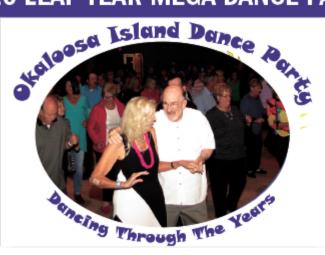








2020 LEAP YEAR MEGA DANCE PARTY

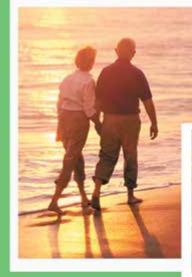


Dance to Emerald Gold Band! Play arcade and video games. Casual attire. Cash bars. Food concessions available for purchase. Event is February 29, 2020 - 6 p.m. - 11 p.m.

BENEFITS SPECIAL OPERATIONS WARRIOR FOUNDATION AIR COMMANDO FOUNDATION

Cost: \$15 in advance, Buy 4 and get 1 free, \$25 at the door. Ticket pickup at Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce or Beach Community Bank locations.

Emerald Coast Convention Center, Fort Walton Beach, FL 850-243-9266 or www.OkaloosalslandDanceParty.com





Gulf of Mexico Beaches Lazy River Pool Hot Tub Spas Fitness Center Snowbird Activities



1310 Miracle Strip Pkwy Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548 800-947-0701 www.destinwest.com



We publish Holiday, January, February and March each year and an e-newsletter throughout the year along with our growing Facebook page: Snowbirds Gulf Coast Magazine. Send items to: publisher@snowbirdsgulfcoast. com. Advertising must be placed the 5th of the month before publication and digital options throughout the year. **Upcoming Snowbird Expos and Events:** Feb. 6 - Alabama Lifestyles Expo, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at The Event Center at Orange Beach; Feb. 7 - Emerald Coast SnowbirdFEST, 8 a.m. – Noon at The Palms; Feb. 7 – Visit Panama City Beach Snowbird Appreciation Day, 8 a.m. – 11 a.m. at Laketown Wharf; Feb. 4, 11, 18 25 – Breakfast and a Movie, National Naval Aviation Museum.

Alabama Fundraisers: February 8 at 11 a.m.- Brat Fest at Orange Beach Community Center and 6 p.m. Trivia Night at the Orange Beach Event Center; 11 – 8 Pin Tap Bowling at Gulf Bowl, Foley; 18 – 9 a.m. Baldwin Heritage Museum Golf Fundraiser at Glen Lakes and 21 – Low Country Boil, Zoo. **PENSACOLA AND PERDIDO KEY:** Visit Pensacola will sponsor a "Snowbird Extravangza" Feb. 5, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Skopelos at New World Landing. The event fee is \$15 and includes lunch and the program. Purchase tickets at the Perdido Key Visitor Center, 15500 Perdido Key Drive or the main Pensacola Visitor Center, 1401 E. Gregory St. Details: www.visitperdido.com 850-492-4660 or www.visitpensacola.com, 800-874-1234

Snowbind Clubs

Snowbird Hootenanny's are Feb. 13 and March 5 at the Flora-Bama Lounge in Perdido Key. Admission is \$10. Pick up tickets at the Perdido Key Vistor Center, 15500 Perdido Key Drive. Details: 850-492-4660 or www.visitperdido.com. PANAMA CITY: A hub of activity for Panama City Beach Snowbirds is the sprawling senior center. Membership fees are just \$50/year. Activities include health, fitness and exercise; arts and crafts; fun and games and social and learning opportunities. Oatfield Center, 423 Lyndell Lane, Panama City Beach, Fla. Details: 850-236- 3038 or 850-233-5065. Visit Panama City Beach has several upcoming Winter Resident events including: Feb. 7 & 21 -Appreciation Days, 8 am, at Laketown Wharf; Feb. 12 - Senior Prom; and Feb. 27 - Grand Finale. Tickets are available at the Appreciation Days. Details: www. visitpanamacitybeach.com. Feb. 7 -

Emerald Coast SnowbirdFEST, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., The Palms, 9201 Front Beach Road. Details: www.emeraldcoastsnowbirdfest. com.

DESTIN: The Club meets at "The Roost" - the Destin Community Center, 101 Stahlman Ave. \$8 per person to register. Weekly Tues. meetings are held in Feb., 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., and at 10 a.m. on March 5. Enjoy entertainment, activities and information from local vendors. Details: www.destinsnowbirds.org FORT WALTON BEACH: With over 700 members, the Club offers a variety of activities, including monthly meetings with entertainment, monthly socials, casino bus trips, Valentine Sweetheart Dance, golf league and scrambles, crafts, pickleball, billiards, and card games. Meeting and registration held at the Fort Walton Beach Recreation Center, 132 Jet Drive. Membership fee is \$10 per person. Meetings are 10 a.m., Feb. 4 and March 3. Meeting days registration is from 9 to 10 am. Details: information@FWBSBC.com or www. fwbsbc.com

NAVARRE: A growing number of programs for Snowbirds has been developed with the list available at the Navarre Beach Visitor Center, 8543 Navarre Pkwy. Also, the Navarre Beach Snowbirds Club has a number of events including the Feb. 13, Sweethearts Dance, 5 to 10 p.m., Navarre Conference Center. Details:

navarrebeachsnowbirdsclub.com **PENSACOLA BEACH:** A list of updated activities is available at the Pensacola Beach Visitor Center, 7 Casino Beach Boardwalk. Details: 850-932-1500 or 850-932-2257.

WALTON COUNTY: Final registration date is Feb. 3 at Faith Assembly Church Hall, 306 S. Geronimo, Miramar Beach. Meetings Feb. 5 at Destin United Methodist Church, 200 Beach Dr., and Feb. 19 at Santa Rosa Beach Community Church, 3524 US 98 W. The club has more than two dozen activities and events and encourages volunteering as a way to get to know people. Annual dues are \$10. Details: www.

waltoncountysnowbirds.com

DAKOTAS: The North and South Dakota Snowbird Club meets on the second and fourth Tues. mornings. Dates include Feb. 4, 11 and March 3 at Luna's Eat & Drink, 25753 Canal Road, Orange Beach, at 8:30 a.m. for breakfast with a short meeting to follow at 9 a.m. We support



Holiday Isle Properties

offer condos ranging from studios to 3 bedrooms. We have condos all over Holiday Isle and a few on Highway 98. Holiday Isle is a quiet area in Destin consisting of a variety of condo complexes and homes that offer a relaxing environment for a winter stay. Our rates start as low as \$1000/ month and we offer a variety of complexes with varying amenities.

Wanting to bring your furry friend? We even offer a few condos that are pet friendly for a small pet fee!

Come view all of our properties at

www.holidayisle.net

If you're not sure exactly what condo would be perfect? Give us a call at

1-800-837-5102 or 850-837-0010 and let our reservation staff find a condo for you at your price point or the requirements you need. the Christian Service Center food pantry and volunteer for local charities and organizations. Details: Joyce at 605-351-0274.

DAUPHIN ISLAND: New this year on Dauphin Island and in the surrounding communities, is "Welcome Wednesdays." Visit the official "Little Red School House" Welcome Center, 1016 Bienville Blvd., and learn about area attractions, visit the history exhibits and peruse the library. Island events include twicemonthly Boardwalk Talks the first and third Wed. at 11:15 a.m. at The Estuarium. Visit Bellingrath Gardens for its Welcome Wednesday special guest list. Details: www.townofdauphinisland.org or www. bellingrath.org

ILLINOIS: Upcoming events: February -7 – Breakfast at GTs on the Bay, 8 a.m.; 8 – Bratfest at Orange Beach Community Center, 10:30 a.m.; 8 – Trivia Night at Orange Beach Events Center, 6 p.m.; 11 – Potluck & Games, 5 p.m.; 19 - Book Club at Orange Beach Library, 9:30 a.m.; 20 – Breakfast at GTs on the Bay, 8 a.m.; 21 – Low Country Boil (new zoo), 11 a.m.; 25 – Picnic in the Park at Johnnie Sims Park, Noon. March 6 – Breakfast at GTs on the Bay, 8 a.m. Club president: Loren Due 815-262-1938 or bbrefl@hotmail.com

INDIANA: Open to all "Hoosiers" and meets the second and fourth Thurs. in Jan. and Feb. at Luna's Event Center. 25689 Canal Road, Orange Beach. Club fee is \$2.50. Dates are Feb. 6, 20 and March 5. Doors open at 7:30 a.m., meeting at 8 a.m. No cash over \$20. Meetings feature door prizes. The club participates in several fundraisers each year. Details: Jan Pell 317-914-5832. IOWA: Four club breakfast meetings at Perdido Beach Resort, 27,200 East Perdido Beach Blvd., Orange Beach. Cost is \$11 per person. Dates are Feb. 5 and 19. Make reservations at IowaAlabamagulfcoastsnowbirds.org (preferred) or call Chris and Steve Hedlund at 319-430-4597. A season final informal breakfast will be held March 4 at Luna's, RSVP required. Cocktail Parties Feb. 21, 5 to 7 p.m. at the Caribe Resort, Building C, 28103 Perdido Beach Blvd., Orange Beach. Details: 319-330-2446 or LFGRU2@gmail.com.

MICHIGAN: One of the largest clubs in the region, the Michigan club meets: Feb. 6, 20 and March 4 at the Gulf Shores Activity Center. Doors open at 9 a.m. for coffee and doughnuts, meeting starts at 10 a.m. The club sponsors several activities, including golf, footgolf, luncheons, casino trips, fish flings,



breakfasts, cruises and other special outings. Members participate in area blood drives, food drives, Brat Fest (Feb. 8) and Low Country Boil (Feb. 21.) Details: Paul Spahl at

michiganclubalabama@gmail.com MINNESOTA: Tuesday breakfast meetings continue through March 12 at GT's On The Bay. New this year: Preregistration required. Click on "Breakfast Signup" on the website. Doors open 7:30 am; breakfast 8 a.m. Cost: \$10, includes tax and tip. Cash preferred. No bills over \$20. The club collects food donations and for the Christian Service Center, our dedicated project. Details: www.mnal.org or the Facebook page @mnalclub **MISSOURI:** Breakfast meetings continue through the end of February at Perdido Beach Resort. Business meetings at 9 a.m. at Phoenix V alternate with breakfast. Details: karengrinstead@ icloud.com or www.mosnowbirds.org. NEW YORK: Luncheon dates: Feb. 6, 20 and March 5 at Ginny Lane, 4851 Wharf Pkwy. E, Orange Beach at the Wharf. Registration 11 a.m. with \$1 donation. Door prizes. Club participates in fundraisers: RSVP for breakfast: nysnowbirds@gmail.com or Tracy, 585-748 website: www.wisconsinsnobirds.com 0133 or Frank, 585-748-0432. OHIO: Club breakfasts 8:30 a.m., Luna's

Eat and Drink, 25753 Canal Road, Orange Beach. The schedule includes Feb. 5, 19 and farewell lunch 1 p.m. March 4, GTs on the Bay. RSVP: Gayle -937-621-1700 or gaylehofacker@gmail.com

PENNSYLVANIA: Meets Wed. for breakfast at Buzzcatz, 25689 Canal Road, Orange Beach Feb. 5, 12, 26 and Mar 4, 11. Pot Luck Luncheon Feb. 20 (tentative). Eat & Talk - dates TBD. Breakfasts have no dues, reservations, formal officers, or roll call. The club joins other snowbird groups in winter fundraising activities. Details: Rich Smith at 484-264-1394 or Betty Ann Smith 908-420-8806

WISCONSIN: Upcoming events: Meetings are at 9 a.m. Feb. 5, 26 at the Orange Beach Event Center and 9 a.m. March 4 and 11 at the Orange Beach Community Center. February fundraisers include 8 at 11 a.m.- Brat Fest at Orange Beach Community Center and 6 p.m. Trivia Night at the Orange Beach Event Center; 11 – 8 Pin Tap Bowling at Gulf Bowl, Foley; 18 – 9 a.m. Baldwin Heritage Museum Golf Fundraiser at Glen Lakes and 21 – Low Country Boil, Zoo. Details: Kenn 251-967-2463 or the club's new



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Registration is required to attend this event.

AboutActs.com/best-retirement to reserve a seat.



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LEGENDS IN CONCERT PRESENTS TWO KINGS AND A QUEEN FOR THE FIRST TIME AT OWA! For the first time in history, three Legends come together for an incredible engagement to open the 2020 Legends in Concert Season at the OWA Theater. The longestrunning and most-awarded show in Las Vegas, Legends in Concert, brings the King of Rock and Roll, the King of Pop and the Queen of Rock and Roll, together on one stage, opening February 7. This show will feature not only the world's greatest tribute artists, but also high energy dancers, back-up vocalists, a live band, magnificent costumes, elaborate theatrical sets, a full array of incredible special effects and much more. Performance schedule and details: www. legendsinconcert.com

All season

Holiday Ice Skating - 201 E. Gregory Street, Pensacola, FL, Pensacola Bay Center. Skate sessions are available throughout the season. Details: 850-432-0800 ext. 252 or www.pensacolabaycenter.com Farmers Markets - Saturdays, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Grand Boulevard Market at Sanestin and Niceville Community Farmers Market in the Square; Sunday 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. 30A Rosemary Beach.

through 2/1/20

Baytowne On Ice - Apex Skating Pavillion, 9300 Emerald Coast Parkway, West Miramar Beach, FL. The perfect place to find the winter spirit! Details: 850-714-7614 or www.baytownewharf.com

SEASON SERIES

Saenger Theatre: Broadway in Pensacola,

Downtown Pensacola, Fl. Series includes: Feb 16 – CATS; March 5 – Jersey Boys; May 24 – The Color Purple. Details: www.pensacolasaenger.com/ broadway or 850-595-3880 Gulf Shores 2020 Winter Series at the Erie Meyer Civic Center, Events: Feb. 3-4 – December '63: A Tribute to Frankie Valli & The Four Seasons; Feb. 10-11 – John Davidson with Gail Farrell; Feb. 17-18 – Harrison Greenboaum. 1930 W. 2nd St., Gulf Shores, Al. Details: gulfshoresal.com Panama City Beach Winter Resident Events – Feb. 7 and Feb 21 – Winter Resident Appreciation Days; Feb. 12 – Winter Resident Senior Prom; Feb. 26 – Winter Resident Grand Finale. Details: www. visitpanamacitybeach.com/events/

winter-residents

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

Winter Wednesdays - Bellingrath Gardens and Home - Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. through Feb. 26. Admission is included in regular admission. RSVP and register: 251-459-8864. Details: www.bellingrath.org

THURSDAYS

"Snowbird Sessions by the Sea," The Navarre Beach Marine Science Station, 8638 Blue Heron Court, Navarre, Fl. Informative events about Gulf Coast wildlife. Jan. 30 Birds and Barrier Islands. Classes begin at 2 p.m. and cost \$10 each. Register at: www.navarresciencestation.org.

through 2/29

Trip Down Memory Lane Dinner Show at OWA -

Brandon Styles 1 Man, 40 Voices, Brandon Styles LIVE Showroom in Downtown OWA. 101-H South OWA Blvd., Foley, AL. 5:30 p.m. Brandon Styles changes his voice to sing nearly 40 classic artists from 1950-1970. shows Tuesday, Saturday and Sunday. Details: www. BrandonStyles.com

through 5/10

Dinosaurs Around the World, The Exploreum Science Center, Mobile, Ala. Advanced animatronics, a multi-layered narrative, fossils, authentic casts, cutting-edge research and immersive design bring the Age of Reptiles to life. Details: www.exploreum. com

2/7-9

Biloxi Boat Show, Mississippi Coast Coliseum & Convention Center, 2350 Beach Boulevard, Biloxi, MS. The 2020 show will feature a great selection of boats, motors, personal watercraft, and marine accessories. Details: 251-478-7469 or 594-3700 or gulfcoastshows.com/biloxi-boat-show/

2/8

Second Saturday Artwalk, Old Town Bay St Louis, MS. 4 to 8 p.m. Gallery openings, shop and restaurant specials and live music make the streets of downtown Bay St Louis swirl with fun family energy. Details: www.baystlouisoldtown.com

Gulf Shores Woman's Club 43rd Annual Tour

of Homes, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. See five inspiring, incredible homes in Gulf Shores and Orange Beach. Purchase tickets at the following locations: Foley: Fran's on 59, 8153 Highway 59; McKenzie Street Florist 201 South McKenzie Street. Gulf Shores: Beach House BouDque at Pelican Place, 3800 Gulf Shores Pkwy #320; Geez Louise BouDque, 701 Gulf Shores Pkwy. Orange Beach: Bungalows at The Wharf, 4776 Wharf Pkwy West #110; GiKed at SanRoc Cay, 27267 Perdido Beach Blvd.; Wildflowers BouDque, 25910 Canal Road. Details or to purchase tickets, call Judie Flanigan at 251-554-4889.

15th Annual Woodstoke Festival, presented by the Gulf Coast Kiln Walk Society Anagama & Southern Groundhog Kiln Openings, 7507 Buckeye Dr., Navarre, Fl. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The public is invited to help unload the historic kilns. There also will be

pottery available for \$10 that will allow tastings of seafood and chili dishes. Free event. Details: www. gulfcoastkilnwalk.org. 7th Annual Americana Music Concert series,

Lodge at Camp

Helen State, 23937



Panama City Beach Pkwy, Panama City Beach, FL. 6:30 to 8 p.m. Hear some of today's best American Roots musicians, including Feb. 8 - Rock & Roll and Blues musician, Webb Wilder and Feb. 22 known for their harmonies, Lucky Mud. \$2 park admission fee. Concessions available. Details: www. friendsofcamphelen.org

Snook Youth Club Fundraiser Auction and Mardi Gras Ball, Hotel Magnolia, 119 N McKenzie St.,



Foley, AL. 7 to 11 p.m. Adults only. The Snook Youth Club of Foley provides youth participants opportunities to engage in social programs. Details: www.facebook. com/pg/snookyouthclub or snookyouthcluboffoley@gmail. com

2/12 - 3/29

Annual Gulf Coast Winter Classics Horse Show,

Harrison County Fairgrounds, Address: 15321 County Farm Road, Gulfport, MS. About 1,000 horses from across the nation are exhibiting. Recurring weekly on Sunday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday. Details: (228) 832-3691 or (843) 768-5503 or gulfcoastclassiccompany.com

2/14

Sandestin Gumbo Festival, The Village of Baytowne Wharf, 9300 Baytowne Wharf Blvd, Miramar Beach, FL. 5 to 9 p.m. 31st annual event will feature a variety of gumbo from Gulf Coast restaurants. Vote for your favorite as the "People's Choice" winner! Details: www. sandestingumbofestival.com

2/15

Tropical Reunion Vow Renewal, LuLu's, 200 E 25th Ave, Gulf Shores, AL. 2p.m. Couples renew their wedding vows on LuLu's private sandy beach with a champagne toast, wedding cake, flowers and a wedding vow renewal certificate. Details and registration: lulubuffett.com

2/15-16

Budweiser Downtown Ocean Springs Gumbo

Cook-Off, Pleasant's Bar-B-Q, 1415 Government Street, Ocean Springs. Up to 25 teams will be cooking gumbo onsite along with live music and many vendors. 12 to 6 p.m. Details: (228) 209-4344 or www.downtownoceansprings.com/events

2/16

1969 at Ginny Lane Bar and Grill, 4851 Wharf Pkwy E, Orange Beach, AL. Three hours of peace and music. 5:30 p.m. Details: ginnylanebargrill.com

2/17

Taste of New Orleans Sound, Jazz Society of Pensacola, Phineas Phogg's, Seville Quarter, 130 E. Government St., downtown Pensacola, FL. 5:30 p.m. February's Super Jazz Gumbo, a fundraiser for Pensacola JazzFest 2020, presents Corporate America — NOLA. Admission includes a cup of seafood gumbo. Details: www.jazzpensacola.com.

2/19

Annual Snowbird Retired Law

Enforcement Luncheon, American Legion Post 44, 6781 State Hwy. 59, Gulf Shores, AL. 12 p.m. All retired and former law enforcement officers and their spouses are invited. Active officers are also welcome. RSVP to Tom Westgate at 269-252-7029.

2/21

"Magical Music of Disney". A barbershop harmony event by the Emerald Coast Chorus 7 p.m. at the Village Baptist Church in Destin. Special guests include Humdingers (quartet) and The Sugar Beach Chorus (female acapella.) Show starts at 7pm. Cost is \$20. Tickets available on line at www. emeraldcoastchorus.com or 1-844-474-6437 or at the door.

2/28-3/1

2nd Annual Radio Theatre Festival, South Baldwin

Community Theatre, 2022 West 2nd Street, Gulf Shores, AL. When our Radio Theatre Festival is "on the air," you will be taken back to the golden age of radio with comedies, science fiction adventure, and dramas from the



time before television! Details and showtimes: www.sbct.biz

2020 Emerald Coast Boat and Lifestyle Show,

Aaron Bessant Amphitheater, 600 S Pier Park Dr, Panama City Beach, FL. Show opens Friday at 10 a.m. More than Just a Boat Show- fishing, fitness, boating, cycling, kayaking, outdoors, paddleboarding and more. Details: www. emeraldcoastboatshow.com

2/29

28th Orange Beach Seafood Festival & Car Show,

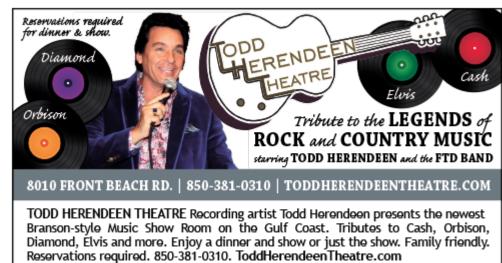
The Wharf in Orange Beach, 4830 Main St., Orange Beach, AL. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Details: 251-224-1000 or alwharf.com

Shrimp and Grits

Festival, HarborWalk Village, 10 Harbor Blvd, Destin, FL. 12 to 4 p.m. The inaugural Shrimp & Grits Festival will showcase shrimp & grits dishes



from favorite local restaurants. Live music, craft cocktails and more. The event benefits the Boys & Girls Club of the Emerald Coast. Details: www. shrimpandgritsfest.com





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Be a part of Mardi Gras with Gulf Coast Second Line parades

Have you ever watched a Mardi Gras parade and thought to yourself, "that would be fun" and like to join in? One of the best ways is to drop into a "Second Line." Typically this involves a small brass band or other music to lead the second line, and people just follow behind. These derived from the New Orleans Jazz Funerals, but today can crop up nearly anywhere.

How do you participate?

18

All you need is a festive attitude and a body willing to "juke" down the street. Add a fanciful umbrella or hankie, Mardi Gras beads and bright and colorful clothing. Here are a few opportunities:

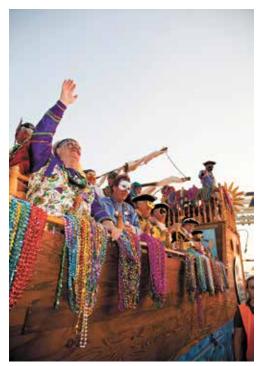


Feb. 8

Pirates of the Lost Treasure Mardi Gras Flotilla, departs Holiday Harbor Marina, 10:45 with stops at Sunset Grille, Oyster Bar, Perdido Bay Seafood Docks, Galvez Landing, docks on Ole River ending at the Flora-Bama at 1:30 pm for a victory party. Details: www. visitperdido.com.

2/15

Kids & Kritters – This low-key annual event gives your pet a chance to shine – and any children in your orbit. Theme is "Jokers and Jesters," and participants should don a costume and provide your own throws (no candy permitted). The event is staged in the Casino Beach Parking lot. Registration at 1 p.m. and the fun begin with a dance pre-show at 1:30 p.m. The parade launches 2 p.m. Pets must be on a short, non-retractable leash and under the control of the handler. Anything that can be pushed or pulled is allowed. No entry fee for kids, pets are just \$5 each. Details: www.PensacolaBeachMardiGras.com



2/21-22

Panama City Beach Mardi Gras and Music Festival, Pier Park, Aaron Bessant Park and Frank Brown Park. The event kicks off Feb. 21 with Float Tours from 4 to 6:30 p.m. followed by the opening ceremony at 6:30 p.m. and then time to join the Second Line Crawl at 7 p.m. The two-day festival includes a kid's parade, fireworks, several bands on multiple stages. The Krewe Du Dominique Youx parade is 4:15 p.m. at Pier Park. Full details and maps are at www. visitpanamacitybeach.com/mardi-gras



2/21-22

Harbourwalk Village – Feb. 21 Big Easy Bar Crawl, 6:30 p.m.- Midnight Dress in your Mardi Gras best for a bingostyle bar crawl! Pick up bingo cards at 6:30 p.m. and turn back in by 9:30 p.m. for a raffle drawing. Then, Feb. 22 - Mardi Gras Parade & Pawdi Gras - Fais Do-Do takes the stage at 2 p.m. followed by beads, dazzling floats & street performers as the parade rolls at 4 p.m. Enter your pup in a spirited Pawdi Gras Pet Costume contest following the parade! Registration starts at 5 p.m. Want to participate? http://bit.ly/HWVMardiGras2020, return to events@harborwalkvillage.com **2/23**

OWA – OWA is celebrating in style with a fully decked-out float parade, followed by a colorful second line parade, parties and live music to mark Joe Cain day. The epic celebration begins at 3:30 p.m. with a free live concert with Roman Street. The Krewe du Cirque parade will begin at 6 p.m., and the Second Line joins after one loop. The event also includes a free photo booth, live statues, face painters, glitter artists, and even aerial silk performers. Details: www.visitowa.com



Mardi Gras Parades 2/9

Mardi Gras Parade & Downtown Throwdown, Fort Walton Beach, FL. 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Details: www. fwbchamber.org

2/15

St. Andrews Mardi Gras, Panama City, FL. Main Parade at 2 p.m. Festival from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Details: www. standrewsmardigras.com

2/21

2020 Krewe of Lafitte Illuminated Mardi Gras Parade, Downtown Pensacola, FL. 7 p.m. Details: www. kreweoflafitte.com

2/22

Annual Krewe of Neptune Night Mardi Gras Parade, Biloxi, MS. 5:30 p.m. Details: kreweofneptune.org Pensacola Grand Mardi Gras Parade, Downtown Pensacola, FL. 2 to 6 p.m. Details: pensacolamardigras.com



2/23

Village of Baytowne Wharf - The Village streets will be filled with costumed dogs and their humans along with unique and colorful floats, golf carts, and pick-up trucks, 2 to 4 p.m. Mardi Gras music will fill the air as our four-pawed friends and parade participants shower paradegoers with a barrage of beads, moon pies, and other trinkets. Interested in participating? www.baytownewharf.com/ files/pdfs/2020parade.pdf

2/23

Krewe of Wrecks Mardi Gras Parade, Pensacola Beach, FL. 2 p.m. Details: http://pensacolabeachmardigras.com/

2/25

Annual Gulf Coast Carnival Association Mardi Gras Parade, Downtown Biloxi, MS. 1 p.m. Mardi Gras beads, stuffed animals, cups, doubloons, and plenty of other trinkets are thrown from over 100 beautifully decorated floats. Details: 228-432-8806 or www. gulfcoast.org

Mobile Mardi Gras Parade Schedule

Mardi Gras got its start in mobile in 1703, so it's no wonder the city celebrates like no other. There are numerous parades almost every day over several weeks. To see the full Mobile Mardi Gras event schedule, visit www.mobile.org/events/mardi-gras/

Time to put on your dancing shoes!

Several special events geared toward Snowbirds will be staged throughout the region in February.

In Panama City Beach, the annual Winter Resident Senior Prom is Feb. 12, 4 to 9 p.m., at Edgewater Beach and Golf Resort. And, yes, a King and Queen will be crowned. The theme is Viva Las Vegas. Tickets will

be sold Feb. 7 at the PCB Winter Resident Appreciation Day, 8 to 11 a.m.

The Winter Resident Grand Finale is Feb. 26, 4 to 6 p.m., at Laketown Wharf. Details: www.visitpanamacitybeach.com.

2020 Leap Year Mega **Dance Party:**

The Okaloosa Island Dance Party will be staged Feb. 29, 6 to 11 p.m., at the Emerald **Coast Convention** Center. The annual event benefits the **Special Operations** Warrior Foundation and Air Commando Foundation. The event features music from the



50s, 60s, 70s, 80s, 90s through today. Food concessions will be available. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door. Available at the Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce and Beach Community Bank. Details: www. okaloosaislanddanceparty.com

Perdido Key Hootenanny: The second of three scheduled "Hootenanny's" is Feb. 13 at 11 a.m. at the world-famous Flora-Bama, which straddles Perdido Key, Fla., and Orange Beach, Ala. This year's theme is "Sweetheart Saloon" with live music, a barbeque lunch and vendors. The final 2020 Hootenanny is March 5. The entry fee is \$10. Just 250 tickets are allotted for each event. Tickets are available at the Perdido Key Chamber of Commerce. Details: 850-492-4660.

Navarre Beach Sweethearts Dinner & Dance, Feb. 13, at Navarre Conference Center. 5 pm. – 9 p.m. Reception, dinner, dance music by Steve Hall. \$35 per person. Details: TJ Goulet at 850-776-8355.

Learn to Dance: The Walton County Snowbirds have a long legacy of dance lessons. Twenty years ago, member Diane Likhite introduced line dancing. She and others continue to teach today at a variety of venues. Also, two couples: Len and Jan Hoover and Dave and Gail Tudman lead Ballroom Dance. The lessons are free with club membership. Details: www. waltoncountysnowbirds.com.



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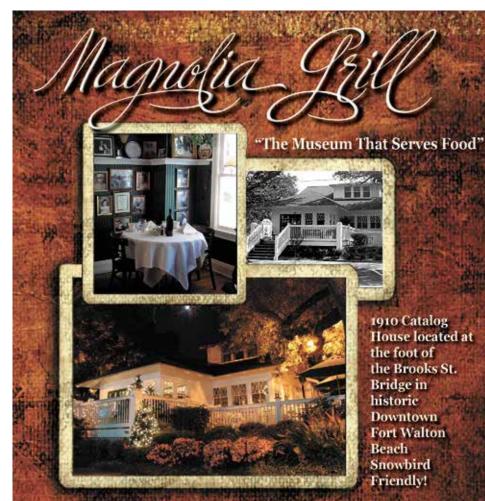
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Lulu's locations want to (re) marry you

by Louis Cooper

Everyone knows that snowbirds are also unapologetic lovebirds, and Lucy Buffett's LuLu's locations in Gulf Shores and Destin are inviting you to renew your matrimonial bonds in the spirit of Valentine's Day.

A Tropical Re-Union Wedding Vow Renewal Ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 8, at 2 p.m. at Lucy Buffett's LuLu's Destin. A similar event is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 15, at 2 p.m. at Lucy Buffett's LuLu's Gulf Shores.

Participation in the vow renewal ceremonies is free.

"It is a beautiful ceremony that is not taken lightly and is a way to reconnect with their spouses year after year to pledge their love and devotion," said Gabrielle Barnett, LuLu's marketing and communications manager. "This is a time for us to give back a little something to these visitors for coming down to spend their winters with us. We are all about food, fun and love!"



Participants will be eligible for prizes for the best dressed, longest married and shortest married couple.

"We will present them with a certificate of renewal of vows, have pictures taken of couples, wedding cake, champagne and ceremony on our beach with a fun band to follow," Barnett said.

Couples can pre-register online at www.lulubuffett.com.

"We do register couples the day-of but encourage early registration so that their certificate is waiting on them upon arrival," she said.

While all are welcome, the vow renewal ceremonies are specifically aimed at winter visitors, she said, estimating up to 75 percent of the couples who participate are snowbirds.

Barnett said not all of the couples are married before the ceremony.

"We have had a few couples actually get married on-site that day," she said. Getting married at the ceremony "is a possibility but would need to be arranged in advance to guarantee it can be done."

Singing Valentines: Put your love to music



Snowbirds in Okaloosa, Walton, or Santa Rosa County, Fla., have a special opportunity this Valentine's season. The Emerald Coast Chorus will serenade your sweetie complete with a rose and candy. The schedule is available Feb. 13, 14 or 15. Slots fill quickly. Details: www.emeraldcoastchorus.com or 850-496-1769.

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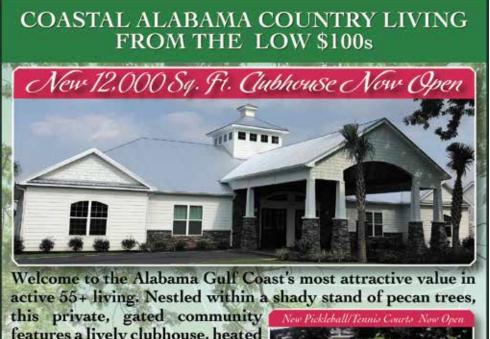
Join us for special programs each week in February. The programs begin at 10:30 a.m. To register, email bellingrath@bellingrath.org, or call 251-459-8868.

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"The Gulf of Mexico: A Maritime History"February 26Camellia Waxing with Dr. Brenda Litchfield

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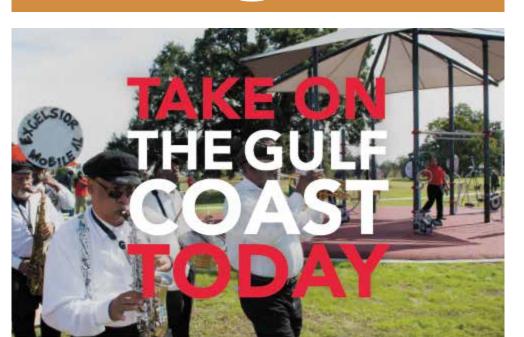
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WELCOMI HOME!



Don't just watch the parade—be a part of it! Baldwin County's mystic society Krewe du Cirque and OWA invite you to come out as the 2nd annual Mardi Gras Parade & Party rolls through Downtown OWA Sunday, Feb. 23rd. The good times—and tunes—always roll on the stage at Legends in Concert and at Brandon Styles' Trip Down Memory Lane Dinner Show. Save \$5 on tickets to Legends in Concert or 10% on tickets to Brandon Styles' Trip Down Memory Lane with promo code SNOWBIRD. Visit the newly opened Paula Deen's Family Kitchen, Sushi Co., and C'est Le Vin Wine Bar and Shop—along with award-winning neighbors like Groovy Goat (voted top sports bar in Alabama) and Trattoria (top pizza restaurant in south Alabama)!

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Get inspired by Dauphin Island: Nature, dining & fun

From sunsets to surf fishing and from history to kayaking, words and photographs can give a taste of Dauphin Island's majestic beauty. But as the saying goes, seeing is believing, and seeing Dauphin Island – whether for the first, the tenth or the 100th time – is nothing short of inspiring.

Surrounded by the Gulf of Mexico,



Mississippi Sound and Mobile Bay, Alabama's only barrier island is known as "The Sunset Capital of Alabama," and rightly so. Locals and visitors alike love to pause at the end of each day and sit on the deck or the beach to watch Mother Nature's end-of-the-day light show.

The rest of the time they can choose from an array of activities that include charter fishing, boating, sunbathing, swimming, birding, visiting historic Fort Gaines, learning about the area's marine life at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab's Estuarium, hiking through the Audubon Bird Sanctuary, learning the history of Dauphin Island at the Welcome Center's museum and stopping by Dauphin



Island's variety of restaurants, gift shops and boutiques. Visitors can also ride the Mobile Bay Ferry; take a nature tour, a dolphin watch boat ride, a lighthouse cruise, or a sunset cruise; visit the island's two art galleries and check out the walking and biking trails that span the 14-milelong island.

For special events, there's just no beating Dauphin Island. The annual Dauphin Island Sailboat Regatta every April is billed as the largest one-day point-to-point regatta in the United States, and the annual Alabama Deep Sea Fishing Rodeo in July is billed as the largest fishing tournament in the world.

The island also kicks off the region's Mardi Gras season every winter, hosting between 30,000 and 40,000 visitors for the first two parades of the year.



A large part of Dauphin Island's charm is its laid-back atmosphere. With no towering buildings, big-box stores, shopping centers, traffic jams, or even traffic lights, it is everything an oldfashioned beach resort should be: fun, friendly and family-oriented.

Whether you're thinking about spending the winter on Dauphin Island, or merely a weekend, we've got what you're looking for. Come see us, and see why it's such a special place!

GET AWAY AND DROP ANCHOR FOR THE DAY!

Day trip getaways to Dauphin Island and The Villages of South Mobile County beckon.



Visit Dauphin Island and the uncrowded Villages of South Mobile County on Wednesdays in January and February – and linger among the region's most treasured attractions. Dauphin Island Sea Lab Estuarium, Fort Gaines, the Audubon Bird Sanctuary, Bayou la Batre, Bellingrath Gardens, and more.



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23

24

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Want to experience Mardi Gras but leave the driving to someone else?

Of course! What could be better than a long day of parades and sight-seeing without dreading the long trip home!

Good Time Tours is offering Day Trips to New Orleans from Alabama and Florida on Feb. 15 and from Florida on Feb. 16.



Both dates are packed with parades in New Orleans, including the French Quarter Krewe of Barkus parade on Feb. 16.

The cost is \$58 per person for the round trip.

Good Time Tours also is offering a "Snowbird Snowflake Overnight Trip" Jan. 30-31 with stops in Biloxi and New Orleans. The price is \$125 per person. Stops include the Hard Rock Casino (\$20 free play) and Scarlet Pearl (\$30 free play and \$15 food voucher.

There also is a Sweetheart Overnight Trip Feb. 13-14 to Biloxi. The cost is \$125 and includes stops, free play and food vouchers at three casinos. Additional overnight trips are scheduled Feb. 16-17 from Alabama and Feb. 23-24 from Florida.

For details and pricing call 850-476-0046 or visit www.goodtimetours.com.

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Casino Fun

2/7

Foreigner, 8 p.m., IP Casino Resort & Spa, Studio A, 850 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, Miss. Details: 228-436-3000 or www.ipbiloxi.com.

Lee Brice, 8 p.m., Beau Rivage Resort & Casino, 875 Beach Blvd, Biloxi, Miss., Details: 888-566-7469 or www.beaurivage.com

2/8

Deon Cole, 8 p.m., Beau Rivage Resort & Casino, 875 Beach Blvd, Biloxi, Miss., Details: 888-566-7469 or www.beaurivage.com

2/14

Clay Walker, 8 p.m. IP Casino Resort & Spa, Studio A, 850 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, Miss. Details: 228-436-3000 or www.ipbiloxi.com.

2/15

Smokey Robinson, 8 p.m., Beau Rivage Resort & Casino, 875 Beach Blvd, Biloxi, Miss., Details: 888-566-7469 or www.beaurivage.com **Steve Miller Band**, 8 p.m. IP Casino Resort & Spa, Studio A, 850 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, Miss. Details: 228-436-3000 or www.ipbiloxi.com.



2/21

Gordon Lightfoot, 8 p.m. IP Casino Resort & Spa, Studio A, 850 Bayview Avenue,

Biloxi, Miss. Details: 228-436-3000 or www. ipbiloxi.com.

2/22

The Oak Ridge Boys, 8 p.m. IP Casino Resort & Spa, Studio A, 850



Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, Miss. Details: 228-436-3000 or www.ipbiloxi.com.

2/28-3/1

Buddy Holley Story, Friday, 7 p.m.; Sat. 2 p.m., 7 p.m.; Sun. 2 p.m. Beau Rivage Resort & Casino, 875 Beach Blvd, Biloxi, Miss., Details: 888-566-7469 or www.beaurivage.com

2/28

The Guess Who, 8 p.m., Golden Nugget Biloxi, 151 Beach Blvd., Biloxi, Miss. 8 p.m. Details: 800-745-3000 or www. goldennugget.com/ biloxi **The O'Jays**, 8 p.m., IP Casino Resort & Spa, Studio A, 850 Bayview Avenue, Biloxi, Miss. Details: 228-436-3000 or www.ipbiloxi.com.





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Snowbird Activities Series - Nutrition Lecture Navarre Visitor Center February 4, 2020, 9 am - 10 am

Snowbird Activities Series - Coffee & Crafts Mardi Gras masks Navarre Visitor Center February 5, 2020, 9 am - 11 am Snowbird Sessions by the Sea

Snowbird Activities Series - Ask a Bird Biologist Navarre Visitor Center February 7, 2020 9 am - 11 am

Navarre Beach Marine Science Station - Beach Combing 101 February 5, 2020, 2 pm - 3 pm

Masters of Woodfire, Maria Spies and the "WoodStoke" Pottery and Kiln Festival at Holley Hill Pottery January 9 to February 8, 2020; Open for kiln tours WoodStoke Festival, February 8, 2020

Navarre Beach Krewe of Jesters Mardi Gras Ball February 8, 2020 6 pm

Snowbird Activities Series - Photography Class Navarre Visitor Center February 10, 2020, 9 am - 11 am

Snowbird Activities Series - Estuaries 101 Lecture Navarre Visitor Center February 11, 2020, 9 am- 10 am

Snowbird Activities Series - Chair Yoga Class Navarre Visitor Center February 13, 2020, 9 am - 10 am

Navarre Beach Mardi Gras Parade February 15, 2020,1 pm

Snowbird Activities Series - Marine Mammal Neighbors Lecture Navarre Visitor Center February 18, 2020, 9 am - 10 am

Snowbird Activities Series - Diamond Back Terrapins Lecture Navarre Visitor Center February 24, 2020, 9 am - 11 am

Snowbird Activities Series - Chair Yoga Class Navarre Visitor Center February 27, 2020, 9 am - 10 am



Navarre Beach

FLORIDA'S MOST RELAXING PLACE.

Pensacola Open: The little PGA tournament that could

Snowbirds who play golf at Perdido Bay Golf Club and Tiger Point Country Club in Gulf Breeze are swinging on two courses that were part of the PGA Tour in the past.

28

The Pensacola Open was a part of the PGA Tour for 32 years from 1956 until 1988.

The Pensacola Country Club hosted the event until 1977 when it moved to Perdido Bay Country Club, where it hosted the event for the next ten years. Tiger Point hosted the event in the final year. From 1969 to 1974, it was known as the Monsanto Open with a sponsorship from a local company.

A significant milestone occurred in 1974 when Lee Elder won in a playoff over Peter Oosterhuis. That win qualified Elder for The Masters, making him the first black golfer to play in the prestigious event.

tournament's organizer, Jerry Stephens, the executive director of the Pensacola Sports Association, to bring in big names in golf to play, as well as other famous sports figures and entertainers to play in the proam tournament that preceded

tournament play. Athletes included

Willie Mays, Stan Musial, Joe Theismann and Johnny Unitas. Celebrities included Gerald Ford, Glen Campbell, Jimmy Buffet, the Gatlin Brothers and Bob Hope.



"The biggest thing about the Pensacola Open is that it will always be remembered forever in the golf world as the tournament that got Lee Elder into the Masters," said Bill Vilona, who wrote a book on the tournament called "Loud Pants and Tight Lies. The Story of the Pensacola Open."

"Lee won at PCC at a time when he was not permitted inside the clubhouse, and he had to change his shoes in the parking lot. His winning that day was historic and it became a national story."

Other notable winners include Arnold Palmer in 1963 and Gary Player in 1964. Pensacola native Jerry Pate, a U.S. Open winner, won the title in 1981. Vilona said Pate worked with the it was the connections that Jerry Pate and the dogged determination of Jerry Stephens to make it all happen," Vilona said.

"So much of

When the event was held for ten years at Perdido Bay, it was known as the last-chance open.

"The event was always held in October toward the end of the golf season," Vilona said. "Players who needed to make enough money to get their tour card for the following year would show up. They would always get a strong field because of that."

In 1988, the event moved to Tiger Point, which was owned by Pate and was considered the showplace golf course in the Pensacola area. But after that year, the PGA Tour announced that beginning in 1989, all tournaments would be required to have a minimum purse of \$1 million. The Pensacola Open, whose purse was always less than half that, was no more. "There was no way they do it," Vilona said. "It didn't leave for lack of local support;



they just got priced out of the market. When you think about little ole Pensacola, that was the signature sporting event of Pensacola.

"This was the signature sporting event in town. It happened because of Jerry Pate and Jerry Stephens. The Pensacola Open is an amazing part of sports history here. It's the little tournament that could."

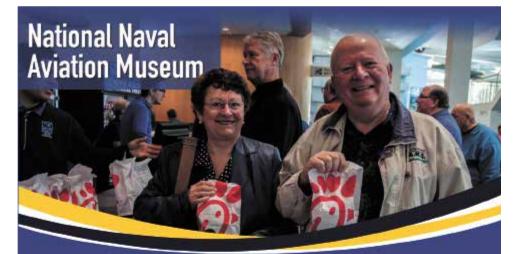




Tiger Point Golf Club 1255 Country Club Road Gulf Breeze, FL 850-932-1333



Perdido Bay Golf One Doug Ford Dr. Perdido, FL 850-492-1223



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Peripheral Neuropathy Warning!

Gulf Shores, AL - The most common method your doctor will recommend to treat your neuropathy is with prescription drugs that may temporarily reduce your symptoms like Gabapentin (Neurontin), Lyrica, and Cymbalta, which are primarily antidepressants or anti-seizure drugs. These drugs may cause you to feel uncomfortable and can have a variety of harmful side effects.

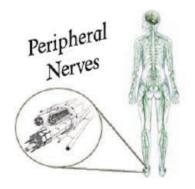


Figure 1: Notice the very small blood vessels surrounding each nerve.

Peripheral neuropathy is a result of damage to the nerves often causing weakness, pain, numbness, tingling, and the most debilitating balance problems. This damage is commonly caused by a lack of blood flow to the nerves in the hands and feet which causes the nerves to begin to degenerate due to lack of nutrient flow.

As you can see in Figure 2, the blood vessels that surround the nerves becomes diseased, and can shrivel up. This prevents the nerves from getting the needed nutrients to continue to survive. When these nerves begin to "die" they cause you to have balance problems, pain, numbness, tingling, burning, and many additional symptoms.

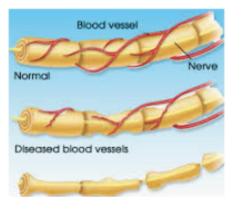


Figure 2: When these very small blood vessels become diseased they begin to shrivel up and the nerves begin to degenerate. The main problem is, you may have been told after trying a number of things, just to live with the problem. There is now a facility right here in Gulf Shores that offers you hope without the side effects that those endless drugs can cause.

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Figure 3: The blood vessels will grow back around the nerves much like a plant's roots grow when watered.

The amount of treatment needed to

allow the nerves to fully recover varies from person to person, and can only be determined after a detailed evaluation. As long as you have not sustained at least 85% nerve damage there is hope! Dr. Weighart, DAOM, LAc, looks forward to helping you.

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