

KEY NOTES

NEWS FROM
THE PERDIDO KEY ASSOCIATION



February 2017 Key Notes

News from the Perdido Key Association

Perdido Key Issues

More on PKA Annual Membership Meeting

Just another reminder that the PKA Annual Membership Meeting will take place on Saturday, February 25, 2017 from 10 AM to Noon at the Eden Condominium on Perdido Key Drive.

The 2017 Board of Directors, including two new members, will be presented as will the past year's developments and future challenges for Perdido Key. We are particularly excited to have Mr. Dan Brown, the Superintendent of the Gulf Islands National Seashore, as our featured speaker. The Seashore stretches for 160 miles from Destin, Florida to Cat Island, Mississippi and includes the Perdido Key area - one of our island's treasured assets. A native of Colorado, Mr. Brown has over 35 years of service in the National Parks Service including assignments as superintendent of the Chattahoochee National Recreation Area and the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, both in Georgia. He has been superintendent of the Gulf Islands National Seashore since 2010 and should provide PKA members with an important perspective on our wonderful though fragile beach environment.

Final Push for Dune Renourishment!

Escambia County officials have been working hard to sign up Perdido Key beach front property owners for the Dune Renourishment project. As noted in the past, the project will plant sea oats and other appropriate vegetation on existing Perdido Key dunes, but requires property owner permission to do so. The Right of Entry Agreement (ROE) that is required gives owners a great deal of say in the planting process and can be cancelled by them at any time. About 70% of owners have signed up so far, with only a few more needed to make the desired 80% so the dune renourishment program

can be funded. This seems like a winning project for Perdido Key, so if you are a beach front property owner and have not signed up - please check out the program at:

<https://myescambia.com/our-services/natural-resources-management/water-quality-land-management/perdido-key-habitat-conservation-plan/perdido-key-dune-restoration-project>

or contact Matt Posner (mjposner@myescambia.com / 850 595-0820) as soon as possible; if you have friends who are property owners but not PKA members and you believe this is an important project, please encourage them to look into it as well. Beach erosion is real and this is one way to resist it.

Old River Cleanup

The Friends of Pensacola State Parks along with the Perdido Key State Park staff are sponsoring a cleanup of the Old River Trail which runs from the Perdido Key Chamber of Commerce and Visitors

Center toward River Road. Those interested in helping out should meet at the Visitors Center, 15500 Perdido Key Drive, at 10 AM on Saturday, February 11, 2017. Water and trash bags will be provided; volunteers are encouraged to bring work gloves.

Perdido Key Drive Resurfacing Update

Give yourself plenty of time if traveling on Perdido Key Drive during the day since portions of the road are likely to be one-lane only! Workers are continuing with peripheral enhancements along the road, such as drainage improvements, sidewalk and shoulder repairs, and ADA upgrades; still to come are additional resurfacing and restriping of the road. This will no doubt take a few more weeks to complete.

Most Affordable Beach Towns in America

Gulfport, Mississippi is the most affordable beach town in America, but Pensacola comes in a close second. According to a January 23, 2017 article in The Pulse, the personal finance company SmartAsset used US Census data to compare cities of less than 150,000 in categories such as median home value, median annual property taxes, and median annual housing costs to determine the ranking. Most of the cities in the top ten affordable locations are on the Gulf Coast, including our regional neighbors Fort Walton Beach, Florida and Ocean Springs, Mississippi. For more on the issue, go to <http://pulsegulfcoast.com/2017/01/pensacola-gulfport-top-list-affordable-beach-towns-america>.

See you at the PKA Annual Membership Meeting!

February Calendar

Feb 1: Archeology of the Luna Expedition in Pensacola, Lecture at the Museum of Commerce

Feb 3, 4: Chicago, the Broadway Musical at the Saenger Theater

Feb 3, 4, 10, 11, 12: Ice Flyers at the Pensacola Bay Center

Feb 4: Pirates of Lost Treasure Masquerade Ball at the Caribe Resort in Orange Beach

Feb 4: Double Bridge 15K Run, beginning in downtown Pensacola

Feb 11-12: Gulf State Park Valentine Day Beach Campout

Feb 14: Valentine's Day, many restaurant options

Feb 17-19: Pensacon, Pensacola's Intergalactic Event at the Pensacola Bay Center

Feb 17-19: Mobile Area Orchid Society Annual Orchid Show, Bellingrath Gardens

Feb 18: Seafood Festival and Car Show, The Wharf in Orange Beach

Feb 18: Mardi Gras Flotilla, beginning at Hub Stacey's on the Intracoastal Waterway

Feb 24: Mythical Order of Mirams Mardi Gras Parade in Orange Beach (nighttime)

Feb 24: Lucinda Rowe and Michael Connolly at the Flora-Bama Lounge

Feb 25: Pensacola Grand Mardi Gras Parade

Feb 28: Mardi Gras Fat Tuesday celebration in several locations

The following websites provide additional information about events taking place in our great Gulf Coast region:

<https://www.visitpensacola.com/>

<http://mygulfcoastchamber.com/>

<http://www.visitperdido.com/>

www.mulletwrapper.com

www.myescambia.com

<http://www.emeraldcoastfl.com/>

<http://alabama.travel/festivals-and-events>

<http://www.cityofmobile.org/calendar/>

Regards,

Perdido Key Association Board of Directors