



January 2023

Perdido Key Beach Owners Defend Signage

Recent articles in the *Pensacola News Journal* along with speakers at the Escambia County Board of County Commissioner's Public Forum on December 8, 2022 addressed the issue of "No Trespassing" signs on Perdido Key private beaches. Unlike beaches on Pensacola Beach and Orange Beach but like 60% of other beaches in Florida, Perdido Key has several miles of privately owned beaches. Escambia County policy specifies Perdido Key beachfront property owners can post up to three single post signs along the borders of their property. Reducing allowed signs would lower the ability of property owners to retain the privacy of their beaches. Several Perdido Key property owners spoke at the Public Forum and did a wonderful job articulating their problems with trespassing and vandalism and the need for signs and more enforcement. For more on this issue, see the *Pensacola News Journal* December 9, 2022 article "Perdido Key property owners defend 'No trespassing' signs on beaches as visitors push back" by Jim Little at <https://www.pnj.com/story/news/local/escambia-county/2022/12/09/perdido-key-property-owners-defend-no-trespassing-signs-on-beaches/69709866007/>.

New Initiative to Incorporate Perdido Area

The group "We Are Perdido" led by Steven Brendtro is organizing an effort to incorporate four voting districts of Escambia County including "Perdido Key, Innerarity Point, and much of lower Perdido Bay" as a governing entity. As cited by a recent *Pensacola News Journal* article: "According to the group, the area has a population of 19,416, which is about 6% of the country's population, but the area amounts to 16% of the county's taxable real estate value." For more on this issue, see the December 8, 2022 *Pensacola News Journal* article "Group looks to launch incorporation effort for Perdido Key area" by Jim Little at <https://www.pnj.com/story/news/local/escambia-county/2022/12/08/perdido-key-residents-launching-effort-to-incorporate-as-new-city/69703179007/>.

What to do with Christmas Trees?

ECUA will collect Christmas trees curbside during regular pickup periods as well as at several drop-off locations. ECUA will compost the trees. Orange Beach and other Baldwin County

residents can dispose of trees curbside or at the Gulf State Park Pavilion. The trees collected will be placed on Gulf State Park dunes where they can help trap windblown sand so in the spring personnel can plant appropriate dune vegetation on the collected sand. All ornamentation must be removed from trees to be collected in both Escambia and Baldwin Counties. For more on the issue, go to the December 30, 2022 *Pensacola News Journal* article “Where to get rid of your Christmas tree in Pensacola, Escambia and Santa Rosa at <https://www.pnj.com/story/news/local/2022/12/30/where-can-i-dispose-live-christmas-tree-in-pensacola-escambia-santa-rosa/69761462007/> and the December 30, 2022 *Mullet Wrapper* article “Christmas trees can be recycled to create GSP dunes” at <https://mulletwrapper.net/christmas-trees-can-be-recycled-to-create-gsp-dunes/>.

Perdido Key Area Service Organizations

If you would like to contribute more to your community in the New Year, here are several Perdido Key Area service organizations to consider:

Friends of Pensacola State Parks – a Citizen Support Organization (CSO) “dedicated to generating support for Big Lagoon, Perdido Key, and Tarkiln Bayou Preserve State Parks” as well as fostering “an understanding and appreciation for nature and the environment.” (from Friends website)

Kiwanis Club of Big Lagoon – A vision to “be a visible and positive influence in our community...so that one day, all children will wake up in a community that believes in them, nurtures them and provides the support they need to thrive.” 2021-2022 President John Sevold (from Kiwanis website)

Perdido Key Area Chamber of Commerce – A vision to “promote progressive leadership in commerce for a dynamic and prosperous community in the Perdido Area. (from Chamber website)

Perdido Key Association – PKA operates exclusively for charitable and educational purposes in providing information needed to promote the welfare and orderly development, combat deterioration, lessen neighborhood tension, and maintain the natural beauty of the community known as Perdido Key, Florida. (from PKA website)

Rotary Club of Perdido Key – The opportunity to serve “is perhaps the best reason for becoming a Rotarian: the chance to do something for somebody else and to sense the self-fulfillment that comes in the process and return of that satisfaction to one's own life.” (from Rotary website)

Pensacola in Top 10

Pensacola was recognized as the 10th best city on the Forbes Advisor “Best Places to Live in Florida” review. Criteria considered include “median home prices, personal income per capita, and the unemployment and crime rate.” Tampa was #1, Jacksonville #2, and Tallahassee #9 in the review. For more on the issue, see the December 29, 2022 *Pensacola News Journal* article “Pensacola named in Forbes’ Top 10 places to live in Florida” at <https://www.yahoo.com/news/pensacola-named-forbes-top-10-165037574.html>.

Notes on the Environment

Salinity in our Bays – For information on salinity in our local waters, see the IFAS/UFL document “Are Our Bay Becoming Less Salty? – 2022 Annual Report” by Rick O’Connor at <https://nwdistrict.ifas.ufl.edu/nat/2022/12/23/are-our-bays-becoming-less-salty-2022-annual-report/>.

Amazon Vegetation Loss – For information on Amazon rainforest destruction, go to the December 3, 2022 *AP News* article “Amazon loses 10% of its vegetation in nearly four decades” by Fabiano Maisonave at <https://apnews.com/article/peru-forests-brazil-climate-and-environment-06aaff35dbcd35150b6c76e80a6404d6>.

Polar Bear Decline – Polar bears in the Hudson Bay region of Canada now number 618, down from 842 in 2016. For more on the issue, see the December 24, 2022 *Anchorage Daily News* article “Canadian polar bears near the ‘Polar Bear Capital of the World’ are dying at fast rate” by Sulnan Naishadham at <https://www.adn.com/nation-world/2022/12/22/canadian-polar-bears-near-the-polar-bear-capital-of-the-world-are-dying-at-fast-rate/>.

Endangered Flower – Tiehm’s buckwheat borders on extinction while protecting it may conflict with a proposed Nevada lithium mine needed to power electric vehicles. For more on the issue, see the December 22, 2022 *AP News* article “Feds launching review of mine at site of endangered flower” by Scott Sonner at <https://apnews.com/article/biden-nevada-business-miami-marlins-reno-41d8301f18094b863c8a3df216eda8ef>.

Sunflower Sea Stars Dying – The West Coast sunflower sea star keeps kelp-eating sea urchins in check but has declined 95% since 2013. For more on the issue, see the December 2, 2022 *AP News* article “Scientists call for action to help sunflower sea stars” at <https://apnews.com/article/entertainment-science-health-oregon-mexico-336984d2248ec1ace7936c3c5cb6b2e9>.

Biodiversity Conference Outcomes – Nearly 200 countries at the December 2022 UN Biodiversity Conference in Montreal (COP15) “agreed to a new set of goals and targets to ‘halt and reverse’ biodiversity loss by the end of the decade.” For more on the issue, see the December 20, 2022 *Carbon Brief* article “COP15: Key outcomes agreed at the UN biodiversity conference in Montreal” at <https://www.carbonbrief.org/cop15-key-outcomes-agreed-at-the-un-biodiversity-conference-in-montreal/>.

PKA Holiday Party 2022 and the New Year!

The PKA Holiday Party on December 12, 2022 gave a wonderful kickoff to the Holiday Season, With terrific decorations and great food provided by PKA members, good cheer and fellowship were the order of the day. Held at the Palacio Resort-Perdido Key for the first time, the old saying “a good time was had by all” was certainly appropriate. As 2023 begins, the PKA Board of Directors wishes you and yours the very best of New Years!

January Calendar

Jan 01 – Polar Bear Dip at Flora-Bama; Polar Bear Plunge at Pensacola Beach
Jan 01-04 – Magic Christmas in Lights at Bellingrath Gardens
Jan 01-16 – Ice Skating at The Wharf
Jan 01-16 – First City Lights Festival in downtown Pensacola
Jan 06,14,16,20,21,27,28 – Pensacola Ice Flyers at Pensacola Bay Center
Jan 07 – E-Cycling and Shred Day at Gulf State Park Beach Pavilion in Orange Beach
Jan 07-08 – Still Standing: A Tribute to Elton John at the OWA Theater
Jan 12 – Snowbird Hootenanny at Flora-Bama
Jan 14 – Beethoven and Blue Jeans by Pensacola Symphony at Saenger Pensacola
Jan 14,15,27,29 – Ice Zone public skating at Pensacola Bay Center
Jan 20 – Puccini’s La Bohème by Pensacola Opera Company at Saenger Pensacola
Jan 21 – “Get Happy: A Judy Garland Centennial Celebration” in Ft. Walton Beach
Jan 21-31 – Mardi Gras events in Mobile and elsewhere
Jan 28 – OWA Arts & Crafts Festival
Jan 29 – Big Beach Marathon and Half Marathon at The Hangout in Gulf Shores

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

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

<http://mygulfcoastchamber.com/>

<http://www.visitperdido.com/>
<http://mulletwrapper.net/>
<https://myescambia.com/>
<http://www.emeraldcoastfl.com//>
<http://alabama.travel/festivals-and-events>

[Perdido Key Association Board of Directors](#)