



Gulf Coast Hot Air Balloon Festival Announces Special Shapes

Foley, AL (March 4, 2021): The South Baldwin Chamber of Commerce proudly welcomes two special shape balloons to the 17th Annual Gulf Coast Hot Air Balloon Festival. Keep your eyes on the skyline over OWA on May 7th and 8th for a rare and unique sight. You may just see **Laska the Unicorn** or **Sunny Boy** gracing the festival grounds! Special-shaped balloons are always the stars of the show at ballooning events. Both special shapes this year are flown by repeat pilots of the Gulf Coast Hot Air Balloon Festival. **Laska the Unicorn** is traveling to us from Land O' Lakes, Florida, flown by Tom Warren, and **Sunny Boy** is piloted by Benjamin Drennan of Cordele, Georgia.

Over 50 beautiful hot air balloons will be participating in this year's festival and at dusk and dawn, wind and weather permitting, they will be rising to fly in our South Baldwin skies for all to see. Along with balloons at dusk and dawn and balloon tethered rides (both weather permitting), there are lots of activities for everyone to enjoy at the festival throughout each day. A complete schedule of events including balloon glows, live musical entertainment, and other incredible activities can be found on our website.

Here is a quick look at the festival schedule:

Thursday, May 6 – 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm = Balloon Glow Kick Off featuring DJ Patrick.

Friday, May 7 – 2:00 pm - 10:00 pm = Festival open to the public with arts and craft vendors, children's activities, The Park at OWA with Molly Thomas and the Rare Birds and Tobacco Rd. Band bringing the live entertainment.

Saturday, May 8 – 9:00 am - 10:00 pm = Festival open to the public with arts and craft vendors, children's activities, The Park at OWA and shows by Dare Devil Dogs. Live entertainment includes Tobacco Rd. Band, Comedian Mike Evans and B Street Benny. You may even get a sneak peak from one of the Legends in Concert artists!

Sunday, May 9 – 12:00 pm - 8:00 pm = Festival open to the public with arts and craft vendors, children's activities, The Park at OWA and shows by Dare Devil Dogs. Live entertainment includes The Voice's Season 15 Third Place winner, Kirk Jay and Roman Street.

For the complete list of activities, visit gulfoastballoonfestival.com/schedule. Follow, like and share the updates from the Gulf Coast Hot Air Balloon Festival on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

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About OWA: OWA has become known as a world-class entertainment destination owned and operated by the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. Its authentic design celebrates the destinations rural roots and the area's natural beauty. The name OWA, which translates to "big water" in the Muscogee Creek language, was inspired by the 14-acre lake at the center of this unique development. OWA has the feel of a small Southern town that evolved through time with distinct districts, such as Downtown OWA and The Park at OWA, its amusement park.

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