



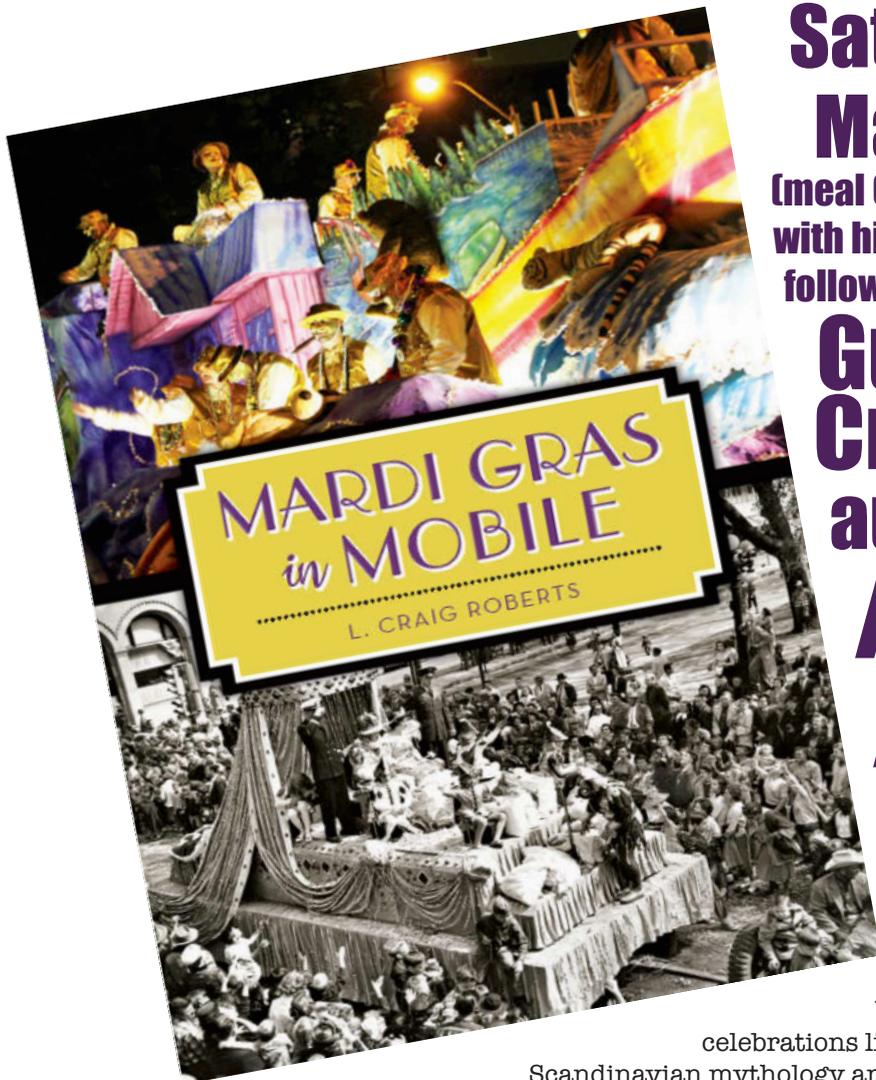
River Talk

Volume 19
Issue 5
February
2019

**Laissez le bon temps rouler —
et apprendre un peu d'histoire, aussi!**

**Saturday, February 2
Mardi Gras Potluck**
(meal 6pm-6:45pm, approx. 1 hour program
with historic and contemporary photos
following)

**Guest Speaker
Craig Roberts**
author of
***Mardi Gras
in Mobile***



Mobile began its Carnival celebration years before the city of New Orleans was founded. In the 1700s, mystic societies were formed in Mobile, such as the Société de Saint Louis, which is believed to be the first in the New World. These organizations brought Old World traditions to the New as they held

celebrations like parades and balls with themes like

Scandinavian mythology and the dream of Pythagoras. Today, more than 800,000 people annually take in the sights, sounds and attractions of the celebration.

Historian and preservationist L. Craig Roberts, through extensive research and interviews, explores the captivating and charismatic history of Mardi Gras in the Port City. He appeared with his book *Mardi Gras in Mobile* on CNN's Emmy-Award-winning *United Shades of America* in June 2018.

Roberts has been a private practice architect since 1979. He was honored by the American Institute of Architects in 2010 as a Citizen Architect for his work in making a difference in his community. Three of his residential projects have been featured on HGTV, and various designs have been featured in the magazines *Southern Living*, *Southern Homes*, and *Victoria*, and in the books *21st Century Homes* and *Contemporary Southern Homes*. You will be able to buy copies of *Mardi Gras in Mobile* at Potluck, so bring cash or your checkbook.



President's Letter
**“Finding
new things
to celebrate.”**

Several days ago, I stumbled across a daily calendar of **Bizarre and Unique Holidays**. Some of the February observances are interesting, some are funny, and a few are downright wacky, but most make you chuckle. Here are a few dates I plan to celebrate in February.

1—No Politics Day.

I think this is a great idea! On the heels of the government shut down coming to an end (at least for a few days), isn't it time to take a break from politics? That means no political activities, no political statements of any kind whatsoever . . . no Facebook or Twitter posts, no discussions or debates, and no sharing or spreading political articles, comics, or other materials. And, certainly, no fake news today. I think one thing we all can agree on, is that a break from politics would be refreshing, if only for a day. Let's celebrate!

2—Ground Hog Day.

We all know about Punxsutawney Phil and his predictions, but did you know this tradition was brought to us in the 1800s by German immigrants? The tradition is based upon Candlemas—a religious observance—but also the day that is the mid-point between Winter and Spring.

3—Feed the Birds & Superbowl Sunday.

6—Lame Duck Day.

7—Wave All Your Fingers At Your Neighbor Day.

Perfect opportunity to greet your neighbor with a big wave. But, to show your respect and appreciation, you must wave with all of your fingers!

11—Don't Cry Over Spilled Milk Day.

Is the glass half full or half empty? It's a day to be optimistic, think positive, look on the bright side, and to find something good in everything that happens.

12—National Lost Penny Day.

14—Valentines & National Organ Donor Day.

What better way to show you care than by being a donor?

16—Do a Grouch a Favor Day.

There are plenty of grouches out there to practice on.

1

8—National Drink Wine Day.

Hmmm...thought this was everyday that ends with a “y.”

20—Hoodie Hoo Day.

People go out at noon, wave their hands over their heads and chant “Hoodie-Hoo,” to chase away winter blahs and bring in spring. *[Editor's note: I personally think Judith made this one up, but it sounds like fun and I plan to celebrate it, too.]*

26—National Pistachio Day - it's a nutty day!

27—No Brainer Day.

Today is the day for you to do all those “no brainer” tasks and activities. If a project requires thinking, study, or analysis of any kind, then it is not the chore to do today.

29—Leap Day

Not this year, not until 2020, once every four years.

Now who said February is boring? Join us Saturday, February 2, 6 p.m. for Potluck as we kick off Mardi Gras in The Springs.

—Judith Miller

Mark your calendars and buy your tickets! The Magnolia Springs Tour of Homes is set for 1-5 pm, Sunday March 10



We need
golf carts & drivers
for the Tour of Homes.
Sunday, March 10
1-5 p.m.

Can you help?
Call Judith Miller
at 251-233-1182



The Community Association is sponsoring its third tour of homes here in Magnolia Springs. The first two were very well received and gave us a chance to showcase our little town. Our committee is working hard now to have just as fine a tour as the first two. Thanks to the generosity of the neighbors who are opening their doors and the many volunteers, we will!

Tour tickets include admission to a welcoming reception in the Community Hall t, featuring treats from our the latest MSCA Cookbook. (Copies of which, coincidentally, will be available for purchase.)

Tickets will be sold on the day of the tour as well as in advance. If you purchase your ticket before the 10th the price will be \$20. On the 10th the price will be \$25.

Tickets will be on sale at the February and March Potlucks, and at

- Jesse' Restaurant
- Magnolia Springs Pharmacy
- Jan's Art Supplies in Foley,
- Gulf Shores Rentals (*next to Walgreen's in Gulf Shores*)
- Page and Palette in Fairhope.

The **six homes** featured this year are all unique. They showcase the owners' expertise in renovation, woodworking, art, and decorating.

- Paula Strange—The Silo House—11761 Magnolia Street
- Ginny & Ed Stone—12168 Bay Street
- Jerry Middlebrooks and Jenni Wren—14144 Oak Street
- Alex Saad and Gayle Deerman—14635 Oak Street
- Patty Childress—11706 Magnolia Street
- Janie and Jimmy Baker—14118 Woodland Drive

The **Community Hall** and **Saint Paul's Episcopal Chapel** represent the history of our town and are interesting in their own rights. The **Bed and Breakfast** is a fascinating place to see and has its own story to tell.

We look forward to seeing you on March 10. All proceeds will be used to preserve the character of our Community Hall by supporting upkeep and maintenance.

Liz Ramsey, Co-chair

Lele McLemore, Co-chair

Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 on the day of the tour.

News from the Magnolia Springs Public Library

The Magnolia Springs Public Library is so fortunate to have such great patrons. Our November Pledge Drive proved as successful as last year thanks to so many kind contributions. Now, we can proudly provide the very best materials for our patrons.

We continue to enjoy the surprises each Thursday when Stray Love drops off cats or kittens to enjoy the day with us. We love the kids that faithfully make a point to see who is visiting each Thursday. Adults can't resist either! It was a red letter day when we were entrusted with one of our favorite kittens, Timothy. His new family arrived, and we are so happy to have seen him off to his "forever home".

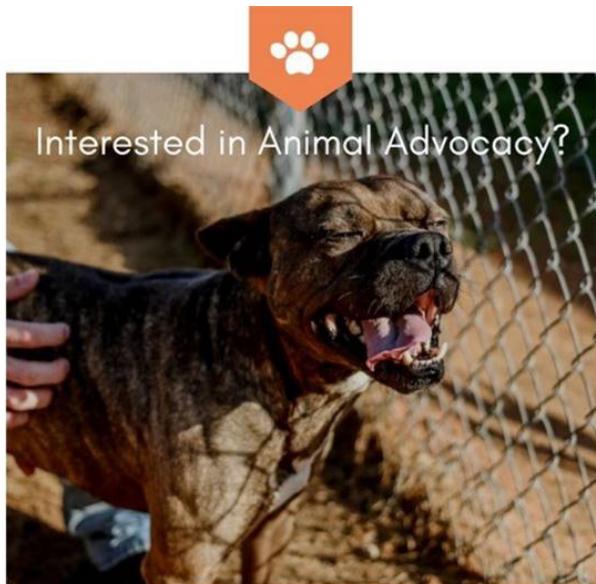
Let me add those "Knitwits" have been having a grand time, and their group is growing. Stop in as they are up on all the good news in town.

Mark your calendars for March 13th a 6:00! Don't miss out on a gala evening at Jesse's to support your library. Menu is forthcoming, but we all know it is excellent. Seating is limited, so call Jesse's at 965-3827 and join us for a wonderful evening with the very best people.

—Alida Given



Gingerbread joy at Christmas-time at the Magnolia Springs Public Library



Then you do not want to miss a presentation by Mindy Gilbert, Alabama's Representative for the Humane Society of the United States. She'll be discussing effective animal advocacy as well as animal welfare issues that are to be addressed at an upcoming legislative session in March.

Baldwin Humane Society Conference Room
February 20th, at 6 PM
22886C US HWY 98
Fairhope, AL 36532

News from Stray Love

We are happy to report that last year we adopted out over 128 rescue animals and helped or assisted (TNR & Big Love Projects) at least 50 others. We could not have done any of this without you all!

Our next confirmed adoption events are:

Saturday, February 23rd at PetSmart in Foley
11 to 3. Set up will begin at 10:30 and breakdown will begin at 3pm.

Saturday, March 9th at PetSmart in Foley
11 to 3. Set up will begin at 10:30 and breakdown will begin at 3pm.

Friday & Saturday March 15th & 16th at The Waggy Tail (16 S. Church Street) during the Fairhope Arts & Crafts Festival. Set up will start at 3 pm on Thursday March 14th. We will break down Saturday afternoon and stack all of our crates and supplies and pick up Monday morning.

Please let us know if you can bring your fosters or volunteer in any way.

Peace, Purr (Woof) & and Happiness!
Gayle Guthrie & Jenelle Moyer

Garden Tips from the Magnolia Springs Garden Club



What To Do Now:

Prune non-spring blooming trees and shrubs; prune the center of Crape myrtles and fruit trees.

Orange fruiting bodies of the Stinkhorn mushroom can be removed with a trowel if a nuisance.

This is a good time to move dormant shrubs or trees if you have been wanting to relocate them.

Test your soil to provide valuable information for future fertilization of lawns and gardens.

Pest Plant of the Month



Japanese Honey-Suckle. This woody vine is destructive to native habitats and will shade out and displace the less competitive plants. Clear by hand if roots can be removed or consult a nursery to avoid collateral damage to nearby plants.

The Magnolia Springs Arbor Day celebration will be held on Saturday, February 16th at the Magnolia Springs Fire Station from 8am until 11am. Garden club members will be distributing "bare-root" trees with information for planting. The trees available will include: Fringe trees, American Snowbells, Loblolly Bays, and Ashe Magnolias. Baldwin County Master Gardeners will be available to help with gardening questions.

For more information or questions about Garden Club events, contact the Garden Club at magspringsgardenclub@gmail.com.

**Share this college scholarship info
with families you know who have children in high school—
and remember that every raffle ticket you buy at Potluck
goes toward the MSCA scholarship**

The Magnolia Springs Community Association will once again sponsor a scholarship to be awarded to a high school senior from the Magnolia Springs area. Students must complete an application through the South Baldwin Education Foundation, Inc. at sbef.net. High School seniors currently enrolled in Foley High, Robertsedale High, Gulf Shores High, and Gulf Coast Christian Academy are eligible to apply. **Application deadline is February 28, 2019.** Through the completion of the single application at sbef.net, students are entered into a database to be considered for over seventy-five (75) scholarships. A complete list of scholarship sponsors is available at sbef.net.

2018-2019 Magnolia Springs Community Association Directory Information

Please fill in all information even if you are renewing so we are sure to have your most current information.

Date: _____

Name(s): _____ / _____

Address: _____

Phone(s): _____ / _____

Email(s): _____ / _____

2018-2019 Membership and Dues Information

If Family Membership, please list any additional members of household for nametags:

Family (\$25) _____

OR

Individual (\$15) _____

EXTRA: Mailed Paper Newsletters (\$15) _____

Additional Tax-Deductible Donation _____

—

TOTAL _____

Please mail this form and your check to: **MSCA, PO Box 6, Magnolia Springs, AL 36555**

Magnolia Springs Community Association
PO Box 6
Magnolia Springs, AL 36555