



PRESS RELEASE
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BY THE SEA RESORTS SHAKES BELLIES FOR THE BEACH

Panama City Beach, FL – Panama City Beach is rewarding its most loyal visitors--those that continue to visit despite the oil threat--with a series of benefit concerts, parades, fireworks displays and contests. Events are planned across the beach from July 1 through Labor Day. The Panama City Beach Convention & Visitors Bureau is calling the initiative the "Summer of Fun."

To help with the effort, BY THE SEA RESORTS has teamed with local belly dancing troupe Gypsy Parvana for two benefit performances and workshops: **Bellies for the Beach**. The troupe will perform on July 31 and August 21 beginning at 6:30 p.m. on BY THE SEA RESORTS' gulf-front green. The green, located next door to the Beachcomber by the Sea at 17101 Front Beach Road, is large enough to accommodate blankets, lawn chairs and coolers enabling visitors to spread out under the stars and enjoy sword dances, veil dances, fire dances and more.

During the program, troupe founder Mahira--who teaches a mixture of cabaret-style and tribal fusion belly dance--will invite the crowd to participate as she demonstrates belly dancing basics.

"Several BY THE SEA RESORTS staff members started taking belly dancing classes and participating in local performances this year," commented General Manager Lee Ann Leonard. "Our hotel chain wanted to host a unique benefit, and this diverse, talented group immediately came to mind. Staff members will perform one dance along with the professionals, helping to demonstrate that you can express yourself and stay fit no matter what your age, shape or background."

A \$5 donation to the National Wildlife Federation's Gulf Oil Spill Restoration Fund is encouraged but not required. The hotel chain also hopes to sale benefit T-shirts produced by the CVB at the show. The event is open to the public.

To learn more about BY THE SEA RESORTS or the events, travelers can call 1-888-627-0625 or visit www.bythesearesorts.com.

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