

March 18, 2017, McGuire's Prediction Run 5K, Pensacola, FL, www.McGuireIrishPub.com
McGuire's Prediction Run is celebrating its 40th year in 2017. With more than 5,000 participants, it is Pensacola's largest run and the nation's largest prediction run. Each runner/walker predicts how long it will take them to complete the 3.1 mile course. The finishers who come closest to the time predicted on their registration form, wins! The use of watches or timing devices will disqualify participants. Run into St. Patrick's Day fun at McGuire's 40th Annual Prediction Run.

March 18, 2017, Southwest Florida Reading Festival, Fort Myers, FL, www.Readfest.org
The Southwest Florida Reading Festival is the largest one-day reading festival in Florida and has a first-rate reputation with prime authors and publishers. The festival's allure is the diverse line-up of approximately 25 nationally acclaimed, best-selling authors for all reading interests and ages. This festival is so loved that attendees come back year after year. It is a fun, free event for the community and draws an average of 18,000 people to downtown Fort Myers for the day. The fans attend to hear and meet best-selling authors, participate in contests and activities and find the latest and greatest in books, technology and accessories. In addition to author appearances, there are programs and shows for youth, a free book for every child and teen, a teen battle of the bands, crafts and a graffiti and chalk wall.

March 18-19, 2017, Lake Charles Civic Ballet, Assemble` 2017, Lake Charles, LA, www.VisitLakeCharles.org/events
The Lake Charles Civic Ballet and the Southwest Louisiana arts community will present Assemble` 2017: Alice in Wonderland at the Lake Charles Civic Center. This classic fairytale will be transformed into a full-length ballet in two acts, featuring the debut of William G. Rose's original composition for a 16-piece orchestra. The show also features whimsical costumes, transformative sets, vibrant lighting and original choreography—all of which will be a collaboration of numerous community members, helping to encompass a variety of dance and music styles including tap, jazz, contemporary, circus acrobatics and more.

March 20-April 8, 2017, 77th Annual Columbus Spring Pilgrimage, Columbus, MS, www.VisitColumbusMS.org/index.php/attractions/Spring%20Pilgrimage#top
Long recognized as one of the best and most authentic home tours in the South, the annual Columbus Spring Pilgrimage offers a varied array of cultural activities to celebrate the best Columbus has to offer. Approaching its 77th year, Pilgrimage showcases resplendent antebellum mansions, inviting gardens and magnificent churches, while providing a feast for the senses. The food-fun starts with the Pilgrimage Kickoff Party crawfish and shrimp boil and ends with a timeless garden party as guests stroll through the Colonnade Garden with mint juleps and cheese straws in hand. In between the tasteful, highly-anticipated events, Pilgrimage sports the 4th annual Pilgrimage Half Marathon/5K run, enlightens guests through Tales From The Crypt performances in historic Friendship Cemetery and serves up Catfish in the Alley—a 2014 *Garden and Gun Magazine* Editor's Choice event that is complete with cool, soulful blues and handcrafted items presented in Artisan's Alley. Columbus' unparalleled hospitality thrives throughout the 10-day event with horse-drawn carriage rides through one of Columbus' National Register Historic Districts and double decker bus rides to Pilgrimage tour homes.