
EDITORIAL

Let the good times keep rolling in Destin

Hurricane season is over, and yet it's also about to begin.

Pat O'Brien's is coming to town and bringing its signature drink, the Hurricane, in tow. And with the bar fondly called "Pat O's" is coming a parade of other New Orleans' institutions, many of them landing at Legendary's HarborWalk.

As our city's emerald green merges with gold and purple, a few questions arise. Are we becoming a little Big Easy? As private enterprise jazzes things up and makes a Crescent City out of the World's Luckiest Fishing Village, how far is too far? Will we care or be a city that care forgot? Is it possible that andouille sausage and fried alligator could take the place of red snapper on our area's collective dinner plate?

The simple fact is, the market will sort it all out. As long as there is a taste for Louisiana in Northwest Florida, such dining establishments will thrive.

And while restaurants may take on a creole flavor, we will never inherit New Orleans' crime rate or tourists with a penchant for drunken exhibitionism and public urination — at least let's hope not.

Besides, with a few signature items of our own — namely, our sand, our water, our harbor — we have too much of a good thing going to get worried about losing our identity.

So as they say in New Orleans, Destin, "Laissez les bon temps rouler."