

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VALENTINE'S DAY ROMANCE IN SARASOTA

Experience all the romance Sarasota has to offer this Valentine's Day with fun getaways, V-Day deals and more on Siesta Key and beyond

SARASOTA, Fla. (January, 2009) --For Valentine's Day, opt for something more than a box of chocolates. Sarasota's restaurants offer up great excuses to wine and dine while Siesta Key has a few romantic ways for you to do more than just tell your significant other, "I love you." This year, show them.

A Valentine's Stroll

Start the festivities early with the annual **Siesta Key Village Association Valentine Stroll** on **February 12** from 6-9 p.m. Residents and visitors alike can enjoy all the romance Siesta Key has to offer as the Village will be filled with Valentine cheer. Enjoy live music and munch on candy kisses. Purchase flowers for your loved ones outside of the **Daiquiri Deck**.

Participating merchants will be waving red and pink balloons outside of their businesses. In addition to the parking Siesta Village has available, Siesta Public Beach has parking and there will be a free Trolley service running between the beach and the Village from 5:30-9:30 p.m., compliments of Siesta Island Trolley and the Daiquiri Deck.

For more information, visit www.siestakeyvillage.org, e-mail sanddollarassoc@aol.com or call (941) 685-2274.

Vow Renewal in Paradise

Renew your marriage vows at "**Say 'I Do' Again**," an annual Sarasota Valentine's Day tradition, on Sunday, **February 14** from 6-7 p.m.

Hundreds of couples flock to Siesta Key each year. Among the locals saying "I do" again this year are local attorney and former Sarasota County Public Defender Elliott Metcalfe and his wife, the Honorable Becky A. Titus, who is also the judge performing the non-denominational service.

For just \$5 per couple, you, too, can celebrate your love on Siesta at sunset. Light refreshments will be available.

Invite friends and family out to the Siesta Public Beach Pavilion, 948 Beach Rd., Sarasota.

In order to participate, you must pre-register by **February 11**. Call (941) 861-9930 or (941) 861-5000 for registration and more information.

Valentine's Getaways

Celebrate in paradise at Argus Property's new Gulf-side resort, the **Beach Club of Siesta Key** (6732 Sarasea Circle, Sarasota). Visitors booking before **February 8** will get special rates starting at \$140/night. Mention "ROMANCE" when booking to receive a complimentary bottle of champagne in addition to the 10% discount.

Spend three days and two nights in a designer-furnished unit, complete with a kitchen. The Beach Club of Siesta has tropical grounds, a heated pool and spa.

For more information, visit www.resortquestwfl.com/beachclub, e-mail hilarie@argusmgmt.com or call (941) 552-9810.

Take advantage of February specials at **Banana Bay Club** (8524 Midnight Pass Rd., Sarasota). Nightly rates start at just \$99 with weekly rates available from \$629. Visit www.bananabayclub.com or call 1-888-622-6229 or (941) 346-0113 for more information.

Call **Tropical Breeze Inn** (140 Columbus Blvd., Sarasota) direct at (941) 349-1125 and save 15% when you book your stay. Visit www.tropicalbreezeinn.com for more information.

Wine and Dine Your Loved One

Treat your lady (or man) to something special at any of the three **Mattison's** locations. Each Mattison's location will offer weekend-long specials from **Friday, February 12-Sunday, February 14**. Enjoy romantic dinner specials such as rock lobster, king crab and filet on candle-lit tables, to the sounds of live music.

On Valentine's Day, opt for a three-course meal for two for \$59.95. The menu options include a choice of soup or salad, an entree, dessert and a bottle of wine.

Mattison's City Grille- 1 North Lemon Ave., Sarasota, (941) 330-0440, Mattison's Forty-One- 7275 S. Tamami Trl., Sarasota, (941) 921-3400, Mattison's Riverside- 1200 First Ave. West, Bradenton, (941) 748-8087.

Put on the Ritz this V-Day at **Vernona at the Ritz-Carlton Sarasota** (1111 Ritz-Carlton Dr., Sarasota). On Saturday, **February 13**, enjoy a four-course meal (\$95/person) or on Valentine's Day, Sunday, **February 14**, a five-course meal (\$125/person; \$175 with wine pairing).

For more information and a full menu, call (941) 309-2008.

Vernona is included on **Gayot.com**'s list of Sarasota's most romantic restaurants. Other noted restaurants include recent Nation's Restaurants News Fine Dining Hall of Fame inductee **Michael's on East** (1212 S. East Ave., Sarasota, 941- 366-0007), **5 One 6 Burns** (516 Burns Ln., Sarasota, 941-906-1884), **Bijou Cafe** (1287 First St., Sarasota, 941-366-8111) and the **Boathouse Restaurant at the Hyatt Sarasota** (1000 Blvd. of the Arts, Sarasota, 941-953-1234).