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The City of New Smyrna Beach Sponsors **1st Annual Seaside Balloon Fest**

New Smyrna Beach, Fl – In the first of what is destined to become a yearly tradition in a town rich with such traditions, The **Seaside Balloon Fest** takes flight for its inaugural event January 9th and 10th at the New Smyrna Beach Airport. (wind and weather permitting)

The Festival kicks off at 5 p.m., Friday, January 9, with music, food, festivities and a traditional "Balloon Glow." The Glow occurs after sunset when balloon pilots synchronize the flames of their burners to the beat of popular tunes. The dancing balloons are dreamlike as their brilliant colors glow from the flame against the evening skies of New Smyrna Beach. Arrive early as guests encircle the glow area with blankets awaiting the magical light show.

Saturday morning will be spectacular site to behold as up to 20 hot air balloons dot the dawn skies over New Smyrna Beach. The mass balloon ascension takes place between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m, wind and weather permitting. Guests are encouraged to arrive early as hot air balloons need the cool morning air to fly. Flights are available and offer passengers an eagle's view of the Ponce Inlet, Turnbull Bay and the surrounding area. Get up early, bring a blanket or dress in layers and get your camera ready for an explosion of color as more than 20 balloons launch simultaneously. A limited number of Hot Air Balloon flights are available. Be sure to make your reservations early. Call 407-897-5432.

A press flight will be conducted on Saturday morning January 3rd. Space is limited so interested parties should call David Fuller at 407-897-5432 to reserve space as soon as possible.

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