

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **BLUES ANGEL MUSIC CELEBRATES 20 YEARS SERVING PENSACOLA**

**PENSACOLA, FL, AUGUST 14, 2017:** Blues Angel Music is celebrating 20 years in Pensacola. The music store was founded in August of 1997 by retired Navy fighter pilot, Jim DeStafney. The public is invited to celebrate the store's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary all day on Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>.

The day of celebration kicks off at 9:00 a.m. with an anniversary sale with discounts of up to 70% off. At 9:30 the store is hosting a free beginner ukulele class followed at 10:30 by an intermediate ukulele jam. There will be free hot dogs and lemonade as well as balloons for the kids!

As part of the celebration, Blue Morning Gallery, also celebrating their 20th year in business, has teamed up with local artists to create a series of one-of-a-kind paintings which they have donated to the Blues Angel Music Foundation to help raise money for music education and music therapy in the Pensacola area. The paintings will be on display at Blues Angel Music Saturday, August 19th and at the final concert of the Blues on the Bay Concert series taking place at the Community Maritime Park Amphitheater on the evening of Sunday, August 20th. Each painting will be auctioned off as part of a silent auction taking place this Saturday and Sunday.

### **About Jim DeStafney and Blues Angel Music**

Most military pilots, when they retire, become commercial pilots. Jim DeStafney, however, is not most pilots. "On my last tour of duty, I just assumed I would do what most of the guys in my position did – become a commercial airline pilot," he said. "I didn't relish the idea. After flying fighters, the idea was pretty boring." A lover of music and not a fan of stagnation, Jim just wanted to move forward and do what he loved, so in 1997 he opened Blues Angel Music.

Of the journey, Jim says "My customers have become my friends, and my employees have become family." After 20 years he is still running a family business; noodling around, working on guitars, and talking to people – he's just got a lot more family members helping him do it.

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