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## **Merry Marketplace retail expo to showcase Pensacola businesses**

*General public is invited to invest in Pensacola and shop local*

PENSACOLA, Fla. – Sept. 25, 2017 – The Greater Pensacola Chamber is kicking off the holiday shopping season with its second annual Merry Marketplace retail expo on Friday, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> from 2 to 7 p.m. at the Pensacola Garden Center, 1850 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Ave. The event will showcase merchandise provided by local shops, stores, and businesses.

The public is invited to shop for unique and personalized gifts offered by a variety of vendors, as well as learn more about area businesses. Attendees will have the opportunity to shop local, take selfies with Santa, and enjoy delicious drinks at the Gingerbread Cafe.

“Merry Marketplace was designed to promote local businesses and the value of shopping small this holiday season,” said Clay Ingram, President and CEO of the Greater Pensacola Chamber. “When we shop small, we invest in our community’s future and make a huge impact on our local economy.”

The Chamber is collaborating with a local nonprofit organization for this event. Admission to the event is free with the donation of one non-perishable food item to benefit Feeding the Gulf Coast. [View a list of most-needed food items and donation guidelines.](#)

“It is important to remember those less fortunate, especially our friends and neighbors, during the holidays,” added Ingram. “We are proud to partner with Feeding the Gulf to collect non-perishable food items that will be distributed back into our community.”

The Chamber is currently seeking event vendors and sponsors. The early bird rate for a vendor table is \$125. A list of sponsorship opportunities can be found [here](#).

**What:** Merry Marketplace retail expo

**When:** Friday, Dec. 1, from 2 to 7 p.m.

**Where:** The Garden Center, 1850 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Ave.

**Admission:** Free with the donation of a non-perishable food item to benefit Feeding the Gulf Coast.

For more information, or to purchase a vendor table, visit [PensacolaChamber.com/Events/Merry-Marketplace](http://PensacolaChamber.com/Events/Merry-Marketplace). To become a sponsor, contact the Chamber at (850) 438-4081 or [support@pensacolachamber.com](mailto:support@pensacolachamber.com).

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### **About the Greater Pensacola Chamber**

Founded in 1889, the Greater Pensacola Chamber is driven to create a climate of growth and success, to ensure economic prosperity and to enhance the quality of life in Greater Pensacola. The Pensacola Chamber Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, oversees Leadership Pensacola and completed Vision 2015, a five-year plan for job creation that brought more than 8,000 jobs to the area within three years. These initiatives take a strategic approach to regional growth and community building with the goal of building a healthier, better-educated workforce; continuing to advance the region’s economic positioning; and improving community infrastructure. For additional

information, please visit [pensacolachamber.com](https://pensacolachamber.com), [facebook.com/pensacolachamber](https://facebook.com/pensacolachamber), [linkedin.com/company/greaterpensacolachamber](https://linkedin.com/company/greaterpensacolachamber) or follow [@pcolachamber](https://twitter.com/pcolachamber).