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*June - July 2016*

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### MARSH FRONT ESTATE ON PONTE VEDRA BLVD

This beautiful 5 bedroom, 4 bath custom home has been lovingly cared for and maintained. Sitting on 3 private acres, which are left natural, makes this property truly one of a kind. The home includes a 4500 square foot 3 or 4 bedroom & 3 full baths home & a 900 square foot 2 bedroom, 1 bath guest house connected by a screened lanai 30' x 12' with an in-ground pool. \$1,925,000



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Enjoy the privacy this home offers situated on a lagoon with a view of the 17th green of the Sawgrass TPC Valley Course. Step into the foyer of this spacious home into the living room ready for entertaining! Fully equipped with built-in wet bar, ceiling to floor windows and sliding glass doors, an abundance of natural sunlight with serene water to golf views. \$1,100,000



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## about this magazine

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## on the cover

Summer is the season to set sail along the Intracoastal Waterway. Photo by Don Christian.





One of  
Us!

## MARY ANNE JACOBS

article and photos by JASMINE MARSHALL

Mary Anne Jacobs is more than just the CEO of Girl Scouts of Gateway Council – she’s an advocate for and a firm believer in the strength of girls. Celebrating her third anniversary with the organization in May, Jacobs insists she’s always been a Girl Scout (by name and at heart) and uses her expertise to blaze trails with the 9,000 girls she oversees in her council.

### ***How did you get started with the Girl Scouts?***

I actually was planning to retire from the telecommunications industry and I received an email from a recruiter regarding CEO positions with the Girl Scouts. And honestly I was a Girl Scout – I had been a Girl Scout from Brownies through high school. And I decided that I could run the business side of the Girl Scouts because I had run businesses before. But because I was one – and because I’m very



Jacobs with a group of girls



Mary Anne Jacobs signs award certificates to be mailed to Girl Scouts.

passionate about girls' issues – I thought it was the best fit for me. This is where I was supposed to be.

***What's the most rewarding part of being CEO of Girl Scouts of Gateway Council?***

There are too many – too many positive things that I get to experience every day. For example, when you meet a new Daisy who is just starting Girl Scouts and they're 5 years old, they're typically shy. Let that Daisy attend two or three meetings and the next time I see them they're shaking my hand and they're just full of confidence. And that's why I do what I do. I believe that girls need every opportunity and I know Girl Scouts delivers that. And it's a difficult job. We have property and camps, so it's not just running a program. There's a lot of things behind the scenes and to witness or experience or have a conversation with a girl who says, "This is why I love Girl Scouts," because she learned to camp or learned to give a speech in front of a crowd or made new friends, that just warms my heart.

***What does a typical day look like for you?***

There's not a typical day. Just yesterday I had several meetings in the morning, I counseled a troop leader, drove to Orange Springs, Fla. to visit a camp for site inspection and came back – and today I met a new Girl Scout! You never know when a new scout is going to come into the office, and I try to be available to meet them and it breaks my heart when I'm not able. So there's positive interruptions throughout the day. To dive into all of the programs really creates an interesting day.

***Has there been a time when you felt personally impacted by the Girl Scouts of this council?***

My first day. I attended a CEO Cookie Luncheon and each year we celebrate girls who participated in our cookie program and sold 1,000 boxes or more. I had no idea what to expect and I was introduced to these girls and their moms and their dads as the new CEO – and it was shocking to me because I really try to be a humble, servant leader, and the girls just swarmed me asking, "Can I have your autograph? Can I get my picture taken with you? Can you sign my Brownie handbook?" It just reminded me of how women in leadership roles should always be humble and create an example for younger women and girls and

lead by that example. It was remarkable and it still happens today! Whomever is sitting in this seat is just a positive role model for girls.

***What is your ultimate wish for all of the girls you oversee?***

When it comes to girls, this position is critical in developing a female workforce, community leaders, future elected officials and great moms. I feel like I have 9,000 granddaughters – and of course I can't meet them all – but I want the best for every single one. I think about every single one of them and what we're doing to help them become risk takers, innovators, go-getters and career women.

***What do you feel the impact of an organization created for female empowerment has been?***

You can't measure it. I believe every girl is at risk and we serve every girl. When you look at society in general, you can look at things that people have been given – and girls are thought of last. So somebody has to start talking about this. We're the majority at the University of North Florida, Jacksonville University and many colleges and universities across the country. Women are the majority of the workforce and we have to start recognizing that. We were the first organization to welcome girls of color – the girls in the first meeting at Juliette Gordon Low's were of all ethnic races and backgrounds. We were Girl Scouts before women had the right to vote. Some people may say we're a progressive organization – and it is – but not in a political way. We're just one organization but we serve 66 million girls and adults nationally, and they come together in one voice to uplift other girls. It's something that needs to be done and the we absolutely have to do.

***What's something you want everyone to know about Girl Scouts?***

There are a lot of things competing for girls' attention today. And I think it's critical that parents make a wise decision and assure that they invite every opportunity for their daughter to learn to take risks and learn to lead. And Girl Scouts is the only program that does that. My ultimate hope is for all 9,000 of my girls to know that they were created to do something special. And I want them to be able to discover what that is in themselves and to take action.

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# A Southern Soiree

article and photos by JENNIFER LOGUE

The Green at Nocatee's Crosswater Hall was transformed into a southern garden party May 5, when the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra held its "Southern Soiree" celebration to benefit the center's programs.

Guests adorned in colorful garden garb and hats worthy of Kentucky Derby Day enjoyed a reception featuring southern-inspired cocktails and hors d'oeuvres along with live entertainment by a string trio. Also on display was an active beehive attended by Master Beekeeper Bo Sterk, who described the bees' activities.

Following the reception the party moved indoors, where guests had an opportunity to sample and savor cuisine from a dozen local restaurants and caterers.

"We choose a new theme for this farm-to-table event every year," said Cultural Center Development Director Toni Boudreaux. "Last year, we featured an international theme and this year we decided to go with traditional southern fare."

Jean-Sebastien Gros of Rype & Read Farm Market took that theme to heart, displaying stalks of fresh corn and other vegetables he was using in preparing seafood cataplana and other dishes.

"This is real farm-to-fork cuisine!" Gros said.

Other culinary interpretations of the southern theme included sliced prime tenderloin with New Orleans sauce from Ruth's Chris Steakhouse, chicken and waffles with fruit preserves from Table 1 and spicy shrimp and green cauliflower grits from the Alhambra Theatre & Dining. Locally sourced honey – courtesy of beekeeper Sterk – and Florida cane vodka from St. Augustine Distillery were also featured along with a corn bread and grits bar with a variety of toppings.

While sampling the southern delicacies, guests had an opportunity to bid on silent auction items before participating in a live auction hosted by Craig Smith.

"This is our last event of the spring and it sells out every year," Boudreaux said. "People really look forward to it."

That was true of Plantation resident Brooke Hackney, who attended last year's event and came this year with first-time attendees Betty Saunders and Sue Mabry.

"They have wonderful auction items," Hackney said. "Last year, I got a trip for two to Greece!"



Betty Saunders, Sue Mabry and Brooke Hackney of The Plantation



Matt and Paige Price



Ponte Vedra Ballet dancers Victoria Long, Sophie Newman and Hayden Beck



Maryanne Nava and Diana Federico



Zoe McDaniel, St. Augustine Distillery



Alyssa Markowski and Emily Kohnke of Table 1

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Sunset & Tapas



Jason, Terre and Scott Ulm, whose new Ponte Vedra Boulevard home was on the Saturday home tour.



Pianist Janine Albrecht entertains at the Woodburn



Home Tour Chair Janet Westling expected more than 1,000 people to take the tour.

# PONTE VEDRA BEACH ARTIST OPENS HOME FOR *'Sunset & Tapas' tour*

article and photos by JENNIFER LOGUE



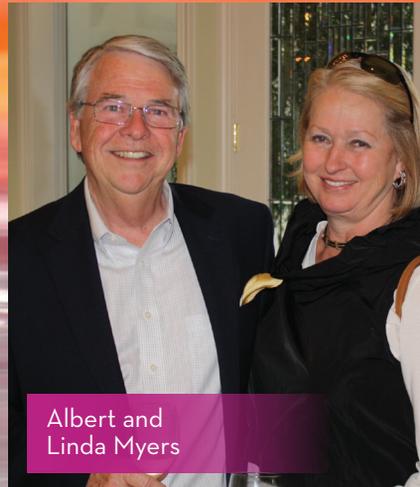
Renee Woods, host and artist Susan Woodburn, Liz Rhodin and Dan Woods



Board President Kip Zebroski and wife Sarah



Susan Woodburn and Cultural Center Development Director Toni Boudreaux



Albert and Linda Myers

Susan Woodburn ushers guests into her sun-splashed art studio nestled at the top of her elegant Sawgrass Island home. As visitors view the workspace and the artwork displayed on its walls, Woodburn rifles through a stack of unframed paintings before pulling out a colorful still life.

“This is the very first painting I ever painted,” Woodburn says, noting that her artistic career only began in earnest some 15 years ago, after a friend suggested they approach a local artist and ask her if she would be willing to give them lessons. Since then, that spontaneous desire to create has fueled a prolific artistic period, as Woodburn has honed her talents and produced scores of still lifes, portraits, florals and landscapes.

“I know some artists will work on a painting for a year,” she said. “But once I start (a painting) I can’t stop. I become obsessed.”

Woodburn shared these and other insights into her artworks as part of the Sunset & Tapas reception held to benefit the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach. Held April 8 in conjunction with the annual Legacy Trust Ponte Vedra Beach Home & Art Tour, Sunset & Tapas offered guests exclusive access to two estate homes not included on the regular home tour. At each home, guests enjoyed wine and tapas-style refreshments while viewing the home’s interior design and artwork.

Woodburn said she and her husband, Hank, were inspired to open their home and her studio for the event in order to support the Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach.

“I love the cultural center,” she said. “I’ve taken classes there, shown my art there. I just wanted to help support all that they do.”

Cultural Center Board President Kip Zebroski noted that proceeds from both the Sunset & Tapas event and the Home & Art Tour went to support the center’s education programs. Among the initiatives supported, he said, is a program that brings music therapy to children with developmental disabilities at local elementary schools.

“The home tour weekend has grown significantly over the years,” Zebroski said. “It’s a big event that supports these types of programs.”

As guests milled about the homes, artists shared background and insights into their favorite pieces. As visitors admired a small painting in her kitchen, for example, Woodburn noted that the artist asked for and received special access to a chapel in Venice in order to paint it.

Guest Linda Myers said she and her husband, Albert, enjoyed the opportunity to view Woodburn’s art.

“This has been really great,” she said, admiring Woodburn’s landscapes and portraits. “I was expecting a lot of modern art, but this has been a pleasant surprise. It’s been a real treat.”



# SAWGRASS BEACH CLUB

## *sneak peek*

by JENNIFER LOGUE  
photos by SUSAN GRIFFIN



Megan Wallace, Adam Horna, Janet Collins and Allan Alday



Clubhouse Manager Perry Kenney and son Cayden; Executive Chef Michael Ayres; Director of Membership Services Janet Collins; General Manager Barry McDonald; and bartenders Jay Nettles and Megan Leonard



Megan Gabriel, Jennifer Belisario and Cameron Geer



Lin Jones, and Mel and Felicia Cox

Board members of the Ponte Vedra Beach Division of the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce enjoyed a “sneak peek” at the new Sawgrass Beach Club April 12, when the club unveiled its multimillion-dollar renovations.

The special preview event preceded a grand opening celebration attended by hundreds of club members, marking the end of a nine-month, multimillion-dollar renovation that officials say will provide the type of amenities today’s members desire.

In addition to a ribbon cutting ceremony, the public celebration featured bands, complimentary food and beverages and the chance to tour the newly renovated facility.

“It was our way of showing appreciation to our members for waiting this long,” said Janet Collins, director of membership services for Sawgrass Country Club. “The feedback we’ve gotten from members has been terrific. They’re very excited and really love it.”

In addition to an all-new interior design featuring new furniture and fixtures throughout the indoor dining and bar areas, the renovation included tearing out the club’s family pool and replacing it with a more modern, resort-style pool. New decks were added and the club’s popular Sand Bar bistro and Pavilion.

General Manager Barry McDonald noted that the recent renovations build upon several other significant improvements made to the club in recent years, including opening a new fitness center and major renovations to the golf course.

“The renovation was about renewing the club’s most valuable asset,” General Manager Barry McDonald said. “But it was also about positioning Sawgrass Beach Club for Ponte Vedra and younger families and recognizing how our current members are using the club.”

As more families with young children have moved to Ponte Vedra to be close to the beach and take advantage of great schools, he said, the club’s casual Sand Bar and Pavilion have become the most active part of the property.

“With casual food and casual dress, the Pavilion just offers a really family-friendly environment,” he said, adding that the club offers a host of family activities such as \$3 burger nights, taco nights and a weekly fish fry.

“We’ve done a good job of evolving to meet the growing trend of young families looking to join clubs,” Collins said. “And offering new amenities and activities is one way of responding to that trend.”

### BY MEMBERS, FOR MEMBERS

Club officials stressed that the renovations were completed with input and involvement from its members, who own and operate the club. Volunteer co-chairs Kristen Ely and Bob Fairley helped provided input and oversight of the project on behalf of the club’s 1,450 members.

“Our board was very involved in the renovations, approving various projects,” Collins said. “They also offered input through surveys and other channels.”

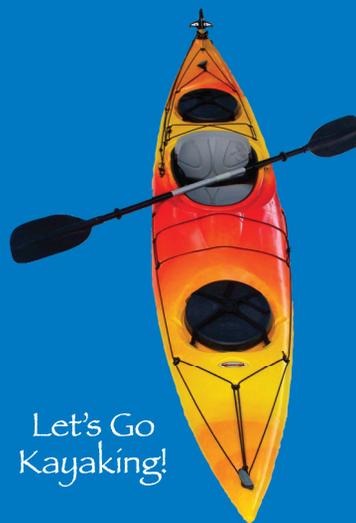
Contrary to popular opinion, members do not have to live in Sawgrass Country Club in order to belong to the club. Currently, only about 35 percent of its members live in the community.

He also noted that while most of the clubs in the Ponte Vedra Beach area are for-profit businesses, Sawgrass Beach Club is a nonprofit organization.

“Our club is owned and operated by the members for the benefit of the members,” McDonald said. “Our bottom line is our members’ satisfaction.”

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# DOWNTOWN THROWS SAILS TO THE WIND FOR *Oyster Jam and Boat Show*

article and photos by JASMINE MARSHALL

Jacksonville's Oyster Jam Music Festival enlivened downtown April 16-17, as the annual festival returned to Metropolitan Park.

A two-day celebration of local music and the southern tradition of shucking and grilling oysters, the festival featured a bevy of food trucks and stands, an oyster "shuck'n" contest, paddle board racing, a cook-off and "kids zone" of assorted bouncy houses, and more than 15 musical acts – among them the Jax Beaches and St. Augustine-based 1960s surf-rock cover band The Rip Currents and bluegrass rock group Grandpa's Cough Medicine.

Jacksonville native Hailey Johnson, who returned for her second year as a festival-goer, said it was among the best music festivals in the city.

"It combines a down-home tradition with art, food, sailing ... and it's just a good time," she said. "Shucking oysters and being on the dock just makes me feel like a kid at my grandpa's house again."

The concurrently-run three-day annual Southeast U.S. Boat Show on the marina proved to be a competitor for weekend entertainment. Its festivities began Tuesday, April 12 with a race between 1,600 miniature rubber boats down the St. Johns River and resumed on Friday through the weekend. For its 20th year, the boat show brought an overwhelming array of booths, boats and yachts for fishermen and sailors alike across

7 acres of land.

"The Sterling 180 has been a popular choice this year," said Chips Meierdierck of GT Marine. "It's the perfect size for marshes and the ideal fishing boat for catfish, flounder and other fish people commonly eat."

Visitor and boat enthusiast Lisa Williams also noted features of growing popularity among casual boaters.

"Light colors like mint green and blue have been really popular with sailboats lately because they're so different and they give almost a retro vibe," Williams said. "And for my family, my friends and myself, small boats are a luxury but they put me at sea and that's all I can ask for. Small or big, just walking between all these boats is heaven for me!"

But no matter the preference, the underlying theme between the park and marina was a weekend of fun and tradition for those who consider oyster shucking and boating a way of life.

"I'm no professional, but I love seafood and practically live in the water," Williams said. "And I know a good time when I see one. [The Oyster Jam and boat show] is definitely my favorite festival because of that."



Chips Meierdierck poses with one of his favorite boats, the Sterling 180 TS Flatboat, a popular choice for fishers.

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Young boat enthusiast Will Hall crawls behind the wheel atop one of several boats displayed.



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# GABRIEL HOUSE OF CARE 5TH ANNIVERSARY *Gala*

article and photos by JENNIFER LOGUE



Jorge and Leslie Bacardi



Terri and Larry Cochran,  
John and Cyndi Bruens

The gala had a fun, festive feel. A vintage 1950s Cadillac El Dorado greeted guests at the entrance to the TCP Sawgrass Clubhouse, as women in colorful cocktail dresses arrived with gentlemen sporting Cuban hats. Upstairs, a Cuban band played as more than 320 guests enjoyed cocktails and bid on silent auction items.

The upbeat atmosphere was just what event organizers were hoping to create to celebrate the 5th anniversary of Gabriel House of Care. Located on the Jacksonville campus of the Mayo Clinic, the nonprofit organization provides affordable lodging and supportive services to individuals undergoing cancer and transplant treatments and their caregivers. What's more, the April 16 event's Cuban theme was in honor of Gabriel House's leading benefactors, Jorge and Leslie Bacardi of Bacardi rum and spirits fame. In 2008, after struggling all his life with a rare lung disease, Jorge Bacardi received a life-saving double-lung transplant at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville. He left Mayo determined to aid other individuals and families going through transplants and cancer treatments, and to honor the donor "angel"

who saved his life: Christopher Gregory.

"(This event) is all about honoring the donor," Bacardi said. "Nothing I do could ever repay the generosity of Christopher Mark Gregory. It's a gift you cannot repay."

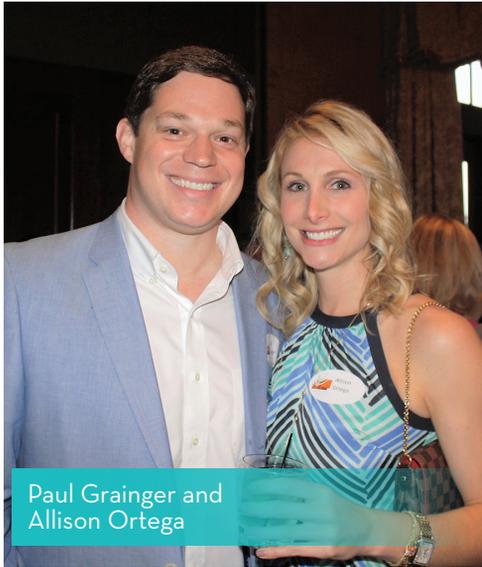
Gregory was a 19-year-old college student at Loyola University in New Orleans when he suffered a fatal brain aneurysm. His decision three years earlier to become an organ donor would end up saving countless other lives.

At the gala, numerous attendees noted how Gregory's generous gift had inspired them to become involved with Gabriel House.

"There's a spirit here in this room tonight," Gabriel House board member Maruchi Schumacher said. "You can feel Christopher's spirit – it really has united everybody."

Also in attendance was Gregory's mother, who noted that less than a week before his sudden death her son had talked about being an organ donor.

"It's overwhelming to see what the Bacardis have set up to continue



Paul Grainger and Allison Ortega



Andrew and Garmeen Keaveny



Rosemary Mann, Betty Lemons, Ann Duke and Sharon Marrs



Joey Andrews and daughter Sabrina Viera

my son's legacy," Grace Gregory said. "It's just amazing to see how many people are benefiting from Jorge's generosity in establishing this legacy for my son. We only had Chris for 19 years, but the gift he gave has now touched so many lives, it's very rewarding."

Since opening in April 2011, Gabriel House has served approximately 3,800 patients and caregivers. The 37,000 square-foot facility features 30 rooms that can accommodate an average of 100 guests per night, providing affordable lodging and supportive programs to adult organ transplant and cancer patients. Guests typically stay for anywhere from six weeks to more than a year. A nominal nightly charge is augmented by private donations, as Gabriel House receives no state or federal funding support.

While at Gabriel House, guests have access to a library, reflection room, great rooms with large-screen TVs, a large communal kitchen, laundry facilities and a fitness room.

"These past five years have been amazing watching this small house grow into much more than a just a lodging facility," Executive

Director Valerie Callahan said. "When these patients and caregivers walk through our doors, they are dealing with a wide-range of emotions including fear, anxiety and depression. We know this can be overwhelming for them, which is why we've taken our lodging program to the next level through our Community of Healing initiative."

While staying at Gabriel House, patients have access to a wide range of integrative and complementary programs, including stress reduction, art therapy, yoga and cooking and nutrition classes designed specifically for individuals with compromised immune systems. Local volunteers and community organizations also provide meals for Gabriel House residents through its "Chef's Night In" program.

For Grace Gregory, knowing that so many families have benefited from Gabriel House's programs has helped tremendously in dealing with a mother's grief.

"It's wonderful to see," she said, "what's come out of the sorrow of losing our child."



**CANTUS, KALEIDOSCOPE  
OF DANCE AMONG  
HIGHLIGHTS OF**  
*Romanza Festivale*  
by JENNIFER LOGUE

The annual Romanza Festivale of the Arts brought 10 days of music, art, theatre, dance and more to St. Augustine. Held May 6-15 at venues across the historic city, the Romanza Festivale celebrated the diversity of the arts with offerings from both local and nationally renowned artists. Highlights of the 10-day festival included:

**MUSIC**

Among the headliners of this year's Romanza Festivale was the nine-member male vocal ensemble Cantus, which performed its touring program, "The Four Loves," May 12 at the Cathedral Basilica. Acclaimed by Fanfare as "the premier men's vocal ensemble in the United States," Cantus is known for an eclectic repertoire that includes everything from Renaissance chamber music to the Beach Boys' "Their Hearts Were Full of Spring." Public radio fans may know

the group from their frequent performances on "A Prairie Home Companion with Garrison Keillor" and "Performance Today's" annual Thanksgiving program, "Thanksgiving with Cantus."

Other musical acts included Jacksonville's Big Orange Chorus, which performed May 9 at Flagler College's Lewis Auditorium. Named the Sunshine District Chorus champions in 2014 and 2015, the barbershop chorus placed ninth in the world at the Pittsburgh International Chorus Competition, while the group's barbershop quartet placed third in the world at the same event.

**DANCE**

Thirteen local dance troupes performed as part of the Romanza Kaleidoscope of Dance. Presented May 7 at Flagler College's Lewis Auditorium, the event featured Aerial Athletes, Abella's School of Dance, Blue Lotus Mid East Dance Troupe, Dance Guild of St. Augustine, Florida School of the Arts, Mia Bella Academy of Dance, Mia Bella Academy north, Matanzas Tap, Noise Complaint, Perla Ballet, St. Augustine Dance Conservatory, SJCCA: St. Augustine High School, and Deidre and Felix.

**VISUAL ART AND THEATRE**

The St. Augustine Art Association presented an exhibition titled "Canvas, Clay, Collage, Cutting Edge" as well as a special art exhibit commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Sisters of St. Joseph. Making its world premiere during this year's Romanza Festivale, meanwhile, was "Sweet Emmaline – the Musical Journey of Debbie McDade." Written by Deborah B. Dickey, the musical play tells the story of St. Augustine native Emmaline Maultsby, who as a teenager traveled to New York City to launch a career as a jazz singer and composer.

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# COREY HOLDS CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS

## *Grand Opening*

photos courtesy of ANGELA COREY



Law enforcement officers and Fraternal Order of Police leaders Dennis Blankinchip, Gary Oliveras, Corey, FOP President Steve Zona, Past President Steve Amos and Rob Beers



Angela Corey welcomes Sheriff Mike Williams to her campaign headquarters opening. Williams has endorsed Corey in her re-election bid for a third term as state attorney.



A large and enthusiastic crowd of campaign supporters turned out for the grand opening of State Attorney Angela Corey's campaign headquarters May 9.

Held at the new headquarters located at 11240 Beach Blvd. in Jacksonville, the event gave supporters from government, law enforcement and the community an opportunity to meet Corey and discuss her plans and priorities as state attorney as she seeks re-election to a third term.

The headquarters opening followed an announcement by Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry that he was supporting her re-election bid "100 percent."

"It's so important to our entire region to have a mayor who truly understands that unless families in our community feel safe, we will never reach our full potential," Corey said. "I am honored to have Mayor Curry's support and I look forward to building on the strong working relationship I have with our mayor and sheriff."

Jacksonville Sheriff Mike Williams has also endorsed Corey, as have Clay County Sheriff Rick Beseler, former Jacksonville Sheriff John Rutherford and the local police and firefighter associations.

"Our campaign momentum is so strong," Corey said, "and we expect it to get even stronger in the coming weeks."

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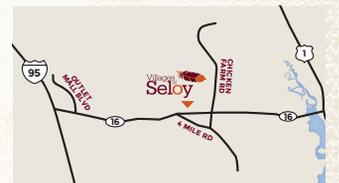
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# ISLE OF EIGHT FLAGS Shrimp Festival

article and photos by JENNIFER LOGUE

Thousands flocked to Amelia Island this spring for the annual "Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival."

Held April 29, 30 and May 1 in Fernandina Beach, the popular festival featured three days of live entertainment, parades, arts and crafts vendors, kids' activities and of course, seafood, as Amelia Island paid tribute to its colorful history.

The festivities officially began Friday evening, when Jade Beasley was crowned "Miss Shrimp" in the Miss Shrimp Festival Scholarship Pageant. The pageant was followed by "Chicago Blues Night," featuring Blues artists Mud Morganfield – son of Blues legend Muddy Waters – and Gitlo Lee. The evening was capped by fireworks and a "pirate invasion" by members of the Fernandina Pirate Club, who could be seen strolling among the visitors throughout the three-day festival.

On Saturday, Centre Street was a sea of people, as visitors strolled amid the arts and crafts vendors, perusing everything from handmade pottery and artwork to jewelry and whimsical sculptures. Down at the riverfront, thousands of visitors gathered along the boardwalk to enjoy boatloads of shrimp and seafood delicacies, while musical acts entertained on the Riverfront Main Stage.

One of the quirky highlights of the festival occurred at lunchtime Saturday, as Ed Kilmer was crowned the winner of the 49th Annual

Topsy Smith Memorial Beard Contest, receiving a plaque, \$25 and bragging rights for the best beard at the festival. Shortly thereafter, those pesky pirates invaded Fernandina once again before the popular Gin Blossoms took the stage late afternoon.

The festivities drew to a close Sunday afternoon with the Blessing of the Fleet followed by a decorated shrimp boat contest and a performance by the 1960s musical group The Swingin' Medallions (Double Shot of My Baby's Love).

Throughout the festival, children were entertained at the Kids Fun Zone, where jugglers and other performers entertained kids amid the bounce houses and other rides and activities. Children also had a chance to learn how to be a pirate, courtesy of the Fernandina Pirates Club.

Held each spring, the Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival takes its name from the eight standards that have flown over Amelia Island in the course of its history, as rival nations fought over the island and claimed it for their own. Through the years, the island changed hands repeatedly, at various times flying the flags of France, Spain, Great Britain, Spain again, the Patriots of Amelia Island, the Green Cross of Florida, the Confederate States of America and the United States.



Tim and Sandy Bruce of Abbeville Georgia



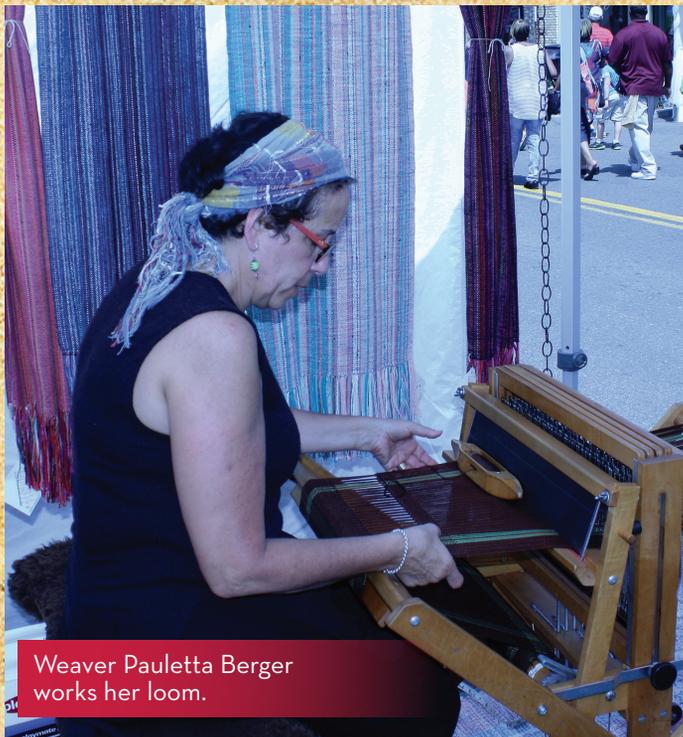
Scott Robbins, Mike Dyer, Lucy Dyer and Cyndi Spell



Contestants line up for the 49th Annual Topsy Smith Memorial Beard Contest.



"Shooter" aka Billie Owens of the Fernandina Pirate Club



Weaver Pauletta Berger works her loom.

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# RIVERSIDE AVONDALE

# *Spring Tour of Homes*

by JENNIFER LOGUE

photos by SUSAN GRIFFIN

First Coast residents had an opportunity to stroll through local history recently, when Riverside Avondale Preservation presented its annual spring home tour.

Held April 16-17, the event enabled guests to take self-guided tours of 12 historic neighborhood properties – including 10 homes, a condo building and an adaptive reuse project. From Craftsman-style bungalows and farmhouses to Tudor Revivals and majestic Colonial estates, this year's home tour opened a window into Jacksonville's past and the distinctive character of the Riverside Avondale area.

The 2016 festivities began with an "Evening English Garden Party" held at this year's Designer Dream Home, 1918 Morningside St. Featuring refreshments by Biscottis, The Chef's Garden and Catering by Liz, the evening provided a special preview of this year's home tour and its featured designers, which included C&K Designs, Rave Reviews Home Staging, Room with a View, Mineral City, Posh Home Designs, Michelle Walsh Designs, Decorator Girl and The Declutter Company.

At each stop on the tour, visitors had an opportunity to admire the home's original architectural details as well as subsequent owners'

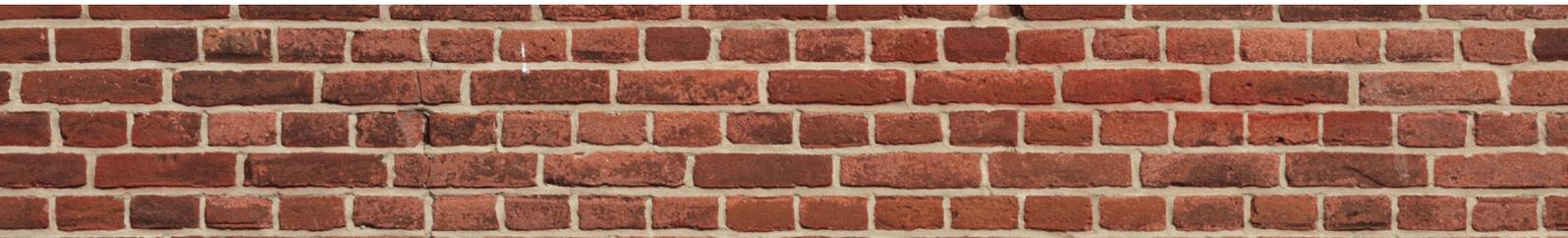
efforts to maintain and enhance the property while preserving its historic character. At 3867 Arden St., for example, guests admired the Tudor Revival's leaded stained glass windows, winding staircase and turret along with its new gourmet kitchen.

The Arden home also served as the setting for this year's Art and Craftsman Showcase, where visitors had an opportunity to speak with featured architects and historic building specialists and view fine art from local artists.

In keeping with the tour's historic theme, the Antique Automobile Club of America brought dozens of vintage cars to Riverside and Avondale. Some classic cars were parked in front of tour homes, while others cruised the neighborhood, adding a vintage flavor to the weekend.

The home tour also included stops at the Riverside Avondale Community Garden and Native Park, where visitors could learn how to incorporate native plants into their gardening designs.

Proceeds from the home tour benefit Riverside Avondale Preservation, the nonprofit organization that is credited with saving many of the area's historic homes from demolition since the 1970s.





# Casa Serena

## OFFERS PEACEFUL WATERFRONT RETREAT

by LISA BARTON  
Broker Associate  
Berkshire Hathaway



Welcome to Casa Serena – your retreat from the busy world. Located at 145 Bristol Place in Marsh Landing’s Harbour Island, this fabulous custom home was inspired by the beautiful architecture of Spain and features stunning views of the Intracoastal Waterway and Harbour Island’s lagoons from every room.

When you enter through the double solid-mahogany doors, you’ll appreciate the gracious foyer with a welcoming fountain, peky cypress ceilings and an elegant floating staircase with hand-forged metal railing. The wonderful gourmet kitchen is perfect for family gatherings and big parties, with lovely granite counters, travertine floors, double ovens, a six-burner gas stove with pot filler, vegetables sink and huge prep island. The kitchen opens to the family room and casual dining area, all with gorgeous views of the water.

You’ll enjoy relaxing in the media room, with a custom-built entertainment center and beautiful bookcases. The huge study has ample work space, two built-in desks and, again, great views of the pool and Intracoastal Waterway. The downstairs guest suite is perfect for in-laws or friends, who’ll appreciate their own bathroom and private patio that overlooks the 60-foot floating dock and lagoon.

The master bedroom is a true oasis, with an elegant double-door entry, cypress coffered ceilings, a custom-built entertainment center

with a gas fireplace and sitting area. This master has two balconies – one overlooking the pool and Intracoastal Waterway and one that is private and great for sunbathing. The resort-like master bath offers a steam shower, large jetted tub, refrigerator and double vanities with custom cabinetry. The other three en suite bedrooms are spacious, each with its own balcony and lovely Intracoastal view.

In addition to the balconies, this home offers ample outdoor living spaces. The heated pool and spa are open and feature great views of the water. The courtyard entry offers plenty of parking and the four-car garages will accommodate a fleet of vehicles.

Harbour Island, “the boater’s paradise,” is located in Marsh Landing Golf & Country Club and is known for its luxurious homes and breathtaking natural beauty. At the center of the community is a yacht basin with floating docks. Boat owners in Harbour Island enjoy direct, deep-water access to the Intracoastal Waterway, and Country Club members of Marsh Landing enjoy great amenities, including golf, dining, fitness and an active tennis program.

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# Who's Who ON THE FIRST COAST

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**CAROLYN S. ZISSER FOUNDED AND IS OWNER OF CAROLYN S. ZISSER, P.A.**, a law firm focusing on Marital and Family Law. Graduating with honors from the George Washington University Law School and with a practice that spans more than 37 years, she has received numerous accolades – including AV-Preeminent status with Martindale-Hubbell, inclusion in Super Lawyers and an appointment as Master of the Jacksonville Family Law Inn of Court. Carolyn specializes in high net worth cases, military family issues, premarital agreements, child custody and division of retirement plans and other assets. She is at her best solving complex family law problems and is committed to improving the lives of her clients. On the personal side, Carolyn is an avid runner, cyclist and patron of the arts. Her community contributions include the formation of Friends of the Jacksonville Symphony, serving as a board member for the Jacksonville Beaches Chamber of Commerce and being actively involved with the Jacksonville Chamber Music Project. She is a lecturer and author for continuing legal education programs for the American Bar Association, Florida Bar and Jacksonville Bar. She credits her success to hard work, high standards, tenacity and the support of her husband and children.

To learn more about her firm, please visit [www.zisserfamilylaw.com](http://www.zisserfamilylaw.com) or contact them at 904-249-8787.



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Janet Johnson is committed to aggressively defending people accused in all criminal matters in state and federal court. In practice since 1994, she is a member of the Florida Bar, The Federal Bar, Colorado Bar, as well as the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. She has been on the faculty of FACDL "Blood, Breath & Tears" annual DUI seminar. Ms. Johnson appears as a legal commentator on CNN, HLN, GMA, and Fox News. She has been awarded the very highest possible rating, the AV preeminent rating™, from Martindale- Hubbell® and was named a fellow to the prestigious Litigation Counsel of America™, as well as one of the ten best criminal defense attorneys nationally for client satisfaction by the American Institute of Criminal Law Attorneys.

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# Dining with a view

## FIRST COAST WATERFRONT DINING

by JENNIFER LOGUE

Photo by  
DON CHRISTIAN

It's a beautiful afternoon on the Intracoastal Waterway. Boats glide languidly beneath the Palm Valley bridge as a couple lounges in Adirondack chairs on the bank, a yellow Labrador at their feet. Nearby, children are playing a game of cornhole with their grandfather as a group of teens prepares to launch kayaks into the river.

It's just another day at Palm Valley Outdoors Bar & Grill, one of the First Coast's newest waterfront dining destinations. As summer gears up, area residents have a myriad of waterfront restaurants both new and old from which to choose. From laid back, family-friendly casual spots to more upscale restaurants, First Coast foodies can spend the summer season dining their way up and down the coast.

### A DAY ON THE RIVER

At PVO Bar & Grill, the atmosphere is distinctly one of relaxed, casual dining. The property first opened in 2014 as a retail store offering fishing and water sports gear and live bait, then expanded to offer kayak and stand-up paddleboard rentals. The restaurant began offering takeout food in October 2015 before debuting its sit-down dining menu in May.

Owner Toni Kara said she and her husband first began thinking about purchasing the property after they began using the nearby boat ramp.

"Every other boat ramp has a store where you can get gear," Kara

said. "We started small, then kept adding equipment and rentals and it just evolved."

From the beginning, Kara added, the couple envisioned expanding to include a restaurant that would capitalize on the Intracoastal views.

"Nowhere else has a view like this – it's such a beautiful piece of property, it seemed like a no-brainer," said Kara, who noted the restaurant offers seating for 170 in its indoor dining room and on the outdoor riverfront patio. "Why someone never opened a restaurant here before I don't know."

Open 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily, PVO Bar & Grill has a diverse menu, with everything from casual burgers, wraps and quesadillas to full entrees such as stuffed flounder, filet Oscar, cranberry pecan mahi and other fresh seafood.

"Our food is absolutely fantastic," Kara said. "Everything is made in-house. We use only grass-fed, organic beef and our bread is baked fresh daily."

The restaurant also has a full bar, she added, and offers live music.

Best of all, Kara added, is the full range of activities patrons can enjoy along with the food. "People can come here, fish off the property, rent a kayak or paddleboard, play games with the kids or just sit and watch the boats go by," she said. "You can spend the whole day here and have a really good time."

# WATERFRONT DINING

compiled by JASMINE MARSHALL  
photos by SUSAN GRIFFIN



## THE REEF

4100 Coastal Highway • St. Augustine, FL 32084  
904-824-8008

Lunch: Monday - Saturday, 11:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Dinner: Sunday - Thursday, 4:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
Friday - Saturday, 4:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.  
Brunch: Sunday, 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Located just north of Vilano Beach, this St. Augustine oceanfront eatery has been in business for 24 years and boasts an ocean view from any table, a renovated walking deck and a menu replete with seafood, beef, poultry and pasta. Among The Reef's signature dishes are grilled scallop tostadas, roast duck breast and herb tuna steak, and its oceanfront bar is open for a daily happy hour with discounted drinks, appetizers and signature cocktails. The Reef is also an entertainment destination featuring live music - including live acoustic performances by Richard Kuncicky every Sunday during its popular brunch served from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.



## CAP'S ON THE WATER

4325 Myrtle St. • St. Augustine, Florida 32084  
904-824-8794

Monday - Thursday: 4 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
Friday - Saturday: 11:30 a.m. - 10 p.m.  
Sunday: 11:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Specializing in coastal cuisine, Cap's on the Water's selection of entrees puts a spin on traditional fresh seafood. Selections such as jambalaya in spicy roux with shrimp, chicken, crawfish and sausage with homemade cornbread can be traced back to southern and Cajun influences, while other items such as chicken gnocchi and tomato caprese recall the taste of the Mediterranean. Located between Ponte Vedra Beach and St. Augustine, Cap's serves its dishes alongside views of the Intracoastal Waterway, with both indoor and outdoor dining. Cap's also serves gluten-free options.



## AUNT KATE'S

612 Euclid Ave. • St. Augustine, FL 32084  
(904) 829-1105

Monday - Sunday: 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Aunt Kate's sits nestled in a patch of live oak trees just off the bank of the Tolomato River, where the likes of pelicans, manatees and dolphins can be seen from the deck. Specializing in family-style dining, this eatery promises a plate for every palate, with entrees from New York strip steak and meatloaf to a low country boil of seafood. With dining options that include a main dining room, a "Victory Bar" and outside under the trees, Aunt Kate's provides food and a view for its patrons. Aunt Kate's also offers banquet and catering options.



## BEACHES AT VILANO

254 Vilano Road • St. Augustine, FL 32084  
(904) 829-0589

Sunday - Thursday: 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Friday - Saturday: 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Beaches Seafood and Spirits at Vilano offers the traditional selection of fresh local seafood, salads, sandwiches and entrees in addition to the signature drinks for which it's known. The "beach-a-rita," a key lime pie martini and a hard "surfside lemonade" make up a few of the specials that can be found at the restaurant, located right on the waters of the Matanzas River. Guests can also look forward to seeing the newly renovated restaurant's new menu items, two tiki bars, new dining area and an outside deck where they can spot scenic sunsets and live music every weekend.

# WATERFRONT DINING



## KINGFISH GRILL

252 Yacht Club Drive • St. Augustine, FL 32084  
(904) 824-2111

Monday - Thursday: 4 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Friday: 4 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Saturday: 11:30 a.m. - 10 p.m. • Sunday: 11:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Established in 2005, St. Augustine's Kingfish Grill possesses all the trappings of easygoing but fresh seafood dining. With a menu distinguished by Mahi-Mahi, Ahi Tuna and shrimp, this Camachee Cove Marina eatery also serves soups and salads, wraps and a fresh selection of sashimi and sushi rolls. Every Sunday through September, guests can enjoy the stylings of Mario Peral and his Latin Jazz Band in addition to a slew of other regular entertainers throughout the week. Kingfish Grill also services banquets, receptions and dinner parties.



## THE CONCH HOUSE

57 Comares Ave. • St. Augustine, FL 32080  
(904) 829-8646

Monday - Thursday: 11 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Friday: 11 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. • Sunday: 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.

An outside deck and grass huts over the water characterize this Caribbean-style marina resort. In addition to lunch, dinner and a newly added breakfast menu, The Conch House is also a cocktail lounge featuring live music and entertainment every weekend headlined by local artists. It's also known for its "Reggae Sundays" series hosted throughout the spring, summer and fall from March through October from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m., a moonlit luau featuring Polynesian cuisine hosted monthly through October and an annual "Great Chowder Debate" benefiting Big Brothers Big Sisters of St. Johns County.



## MARKER 32

14549 Beach Blvd. • Jacksonville, FL 32250  
(904) 223-1534

Monday - Saturday: 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Sunday: 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Combining fine dining with a casual, communal atmosphere, Marker 32 is a time-tested seafood destination. With 23 years of fine dining under its belt, this restaurant offers five-star meals from its extensive menu, a slew of drinking options and a raw bar in its Beach Boulevard location overlooking the Intracoastal Waterway. Helmed by owner Ben Groshell, who was named one of the nation's premier chefs by "Best Chefs America," Marker 32 remains family owned and operated while providing a world-class dining experience.

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AMELIA ISLAND

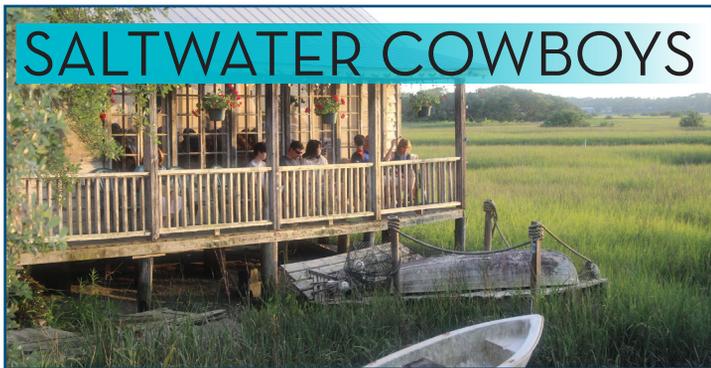
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# WATERFRONT DINING

## SALTWATER COWBOYS



299 Dondanville Road • St. Augustine, FL 32080  
(904) 471-2332

Sunday - Thursday: 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
Friday - Saturday: 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.

With a menu that runs the gamut from pan blackened catfish to baked cucumber fish and fried alligator tail, Saltwater Cowboys has a variety of seafood covered. Located right on the saltwater marshes off the Intracoastal, Saltwater Cowboys has been in business for more than 50 years with its blend of Cajun-style and deep southern flavor. This seafood destination features both indoor dining and an outside deck with a sunset view for a more scenic experience.

## SAFE HARBOR SEAFOOD



2510 2nd Ave. N • Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250  
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Located in Amelia Island's historic district, Brett's Waterway Cafe serves up a selection of entrees from the land and sea, including gluten-free dining options, for lunch and dinner. It also features a view that overlooks the Fernandina Harbor, a full bar and varied choices of wine.

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With a prime location at the Sawgrass Marriott Resort & Spa, this laid-back dining experience offers locally sourced cuisine and unrivaled views of the lagoon of TPC Sawgrass' Stadium Course. Its menu is equal parts light and hearty, with options such as a roasted turkey wrap and kale Caesar salad, as well as options such as Executive Chef Joe Natoli's "Swamp Cuban" pulled pork and ham sandwich, smoked brisket and a "Swamp Burger" with angus beef and bacon. American Gator Club also serves a variety of beers, wines and specialty cocktails, with covered, open-air seating and poolside dining for Marriott guests also available.

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# The Bearded Pig

## FUSES TRADITIONAL FOODS WITH MODERN FLAVOR

article and photos by JASMINE MARSHALL



The Bearded Pig turns a lot of what people may think they know about barbecue restaurants on its head.

For starters, the quaint bistro is tucked between a bank and an art supply store on one of the more obscure stretches of Kings Ave., between the historic San Marco district but still in view of downtown's skyscrapers. The decor leans more on the side of industrial than rodeo, with exposed beams and metal chairs and an open dining area – and the addition of a chalk surface fence surrounding the restaurant's patio dining area aims for familiarity that isn't often seen in eateries known for grilled food with "outback" flair.

"I wanted to keep the industrial vibe," said Chad Munsey, co-owner

of The Bearded Pig. "But we also wanted to create something that's warm and inviting, that feels like a close friend's backyard."

The restaurant opened April 13 under Munsey and co-owner Michael Schmidt. As a locally owned business, Munsey said, their foremost concern was creating an atmosphere that was as welcoming as possible.

The effort is most clearly seen where the restaurant opens to a shaded outdoor dining area. The patio resembles a backyard barbecue destination, with string lights hanging from the ceiling and chalk paintings alongside gray fence walls. Open space through a cut-out bar window links the entire area together for dining that,

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**Source: Real Value of Joining a Local Chamber of Commerce Shapiro Group, 2012.**

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The infographic features a blue background on the left with four key benefits: Strengthen Your Credibility, Improve Your Visibility, Amplify Business Advocacy, and Drive Prosperity. On the right, a 3D bar chart shows a tall blue bar representing 80% more likely, with a happy cartoon man on top, and a shorter orange bar representing the baseline, with a sad cartoon man on top. A blue box contains the text 'Consumers are Eighty Percent more likely to buy from Chamber Members'. The source is cited as 'Real Value of Joining a Local Chamber of Commerce Shapiro Group, 2012'. At the bottom left is the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce logo and contact information.



Munsey recommends the “San Marco Platter,” for a little bit of everything. This sampler platter comes with the customer’s choice of two meats, a quarter of chicken and a quarter rack of ribs plus two sides. “It’s something for everyone,” he says.

while intimate, is still spacious. Drinks, desserts and entrees alike are served in glass mason jars and kraft paper to drive the effect home. But the differences don’t stop at the décor, Munsey insists. The Bearded Pig’s menu is distinguished by its focus on beef dishes and meats flavored by dry rub instead of wet sauce, as well as vegetarian side dishes that will appeal to vegetarian eaters – a niche often overlooked in barbecue. The chefs also use premium ingredients and hormone- and antibiotic-free pork from Compart farms – the only restaurant in the city to do so, Munsey said. “It’s kind of a modern spin on barbecued foods,” he said. “The menu is made so the appeal is broad, the ingredients are premium

and it’s a fast-casual style restaurant with a modern design.” By melding the regular trappings of a barbecue haunt with modernity, Munsey hopes to fill a niche previously unoccupied in the area while meeting the expectations of more discerning foodies around Jacksonville. “We’ve put a different spin on the traditional, old school barbecue environment,” he said. “The response has been overwhelmingly incredible, so we’re just striving every day to make the best barbecue possible in a friendly environment.”

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An underwater photograph of a shipwreck. In the foreground, a large, weathered wooden barrel is partially visible. The background shows the dark, rusted metal hull of a ship, with various pieces of debris and structural elements scattered around. The water is dark blue, and there are some light reflections and bubbles visible. The overall scene is somber and historical.

# 'Wrecked!'

**EXHIBIT FEATURES ITEMS  
RECOVERED FROM ST.  
AUGUSTINE COLONIAL  
SHIPWRECK**

article and photos by CARRIE RESCH



A Star Waters mannequin is part of the downstairs exhibit. Fictitious junior underwater archaeology character Star Waters, helps guide children through the exhibit with kid-friendly prompts at each station.



Tea with Star - kids can enjoy a Star Waters tea party



The ship's bell.



For the past six years, archaeologists with the Lighthouse Archaeology Maritime Program (LAMP) have been diving on a colonial-era shipwreck, referred to as the Storm Wreck, discovered off the coast of St. Augustine in 2009.

Now that the 600-plus items recovered from the shipwreck have been fully restored and catalogued, the exhibit is finally open to the public. Now on display at the St. Augustine Lighthouse & Museum, the "Wrecked!" exhibit displays artifacts from the discovered shipwreck, believed to be one of the British oyalist refugee ships to flee Charleston near the end of the Revolutionary War. Wanting to do something different with this exhibition, museum representatives said, the museum brought in Chicago-based husband-and-wife team Peter and Sharon Exley to design the display.

"We really wanted someone who could give us a fresh exhibit," Director of Public Relations Shannon O'Neil said. "Everything we have here, it all tells the story of our maritime history in St.

Augustine; we wanted something that was a little more fun and kid friendly - colorful and exciting - and they definitely met that for us."

Located inside a portion of the Keepers' House, the exhibit spans two floors and serves a two-fold purpose: to display artifacts recovered from the shipwreck, and to educate children and adults on the process of underwater archaeology. Lined with shiny silver geometric-patterned wallpaper representative of the lens of the lighthouse, the exhibit's "lab" portion consists of different interactive stations where visitors can learn the science of underwater archaeology and the steps required to successfully find and excavate a shipwreck, including the process of conservation.

Fictitious junior underwater archaeology character Star Waters helps guide children through the exhibit with kid-friendly prompts at each station. One station includes several iPads where kids can play the Star Waters video game and help locate

a shipwreck, search for artifacts and collect a concretion – a solid mass formed by the accumulation of matter – and bring it back to the conservation lab where they can use an air scribe to remove the crust and learn more about the artifact trapped inside. Kids can also search for shipwrecks using the hands-on magnetometer search and find station.

In addition to the stations, a television screen with video from actual LAMP excavations is played on a loop. Another television screen broadcasts live feed from cameras in the downstairs portion for guests who are unable to descend the spiral staircase.

Descending that staircase to the second portion of the exhibit represents “diving down” to the seafloor. Uneven wood flooring, meanwhile, is meant to convey the uneven sandbar on the seafloor that became the shipwreck’s final resting place. This is where guests can view actual recovered and restored items from the shipwreck. In all, more than 600 artifacts were recovered, a third of which have been preserved.

### ITEMS FROM THE PAST

“This is a side of the American Revolution that isn’t often talked about,” LAMP Archaeologist Olivia McDaniel said. “You don’t really get much of the Loyalists’ side of the American Revolution, so just that whole look into our history has been really interesting and fun to learn about.”

Among the recovered items were a cast iron cooking cauldron, pewter spoons, plates, an iron tea kettle, clothing irons, a lead deck pump, a flintlock pistol, three Brown Bess Muskets, the complete ship’s bell, and a British gold coin dated 1776, among hundreds of other items, some of which are still undergoing conservation.

In the summer of 2011, two cannons were raised from the wreck, one of which proved to be a carronade, a new weapon invented during the American Revolution. The Storm Wreck carronade is believed to be the second-oldest carronade in the world.

Archaeologist Maggie Burkett was there the day the cannon and carronade were brought up from the seafloor. Burkett was in the LAMP Field School program in 2011, was promoted to a supervisor in 2012 and then secured a position as a conservator in 2014.

“It’s been really cool to be able to be a part of it,” Burkett said. “It’s just an amazing journey to see everything come together, and I’m really happy with the way the exhibit came out.”

Her favorite exhibit item is one of the clothing irons, which she helped conserve. Because it was a personal effect, she said, the item helped her appreciate that the iron once belonged to someone.

“It made it more emotional for me,” she said.

Brenda Swann, director of collections and interpretations for the museum, hopes the new exhibit will shed some light on what underwater archaeologists do as opposed to treasure hunters. She also hopes the exhibit raises awareness of the archaeological discovery made right off the coast of St. Augustine.

“We are hoping guests walk away...with a better understanding of the role Florida and St. Augustine played in the Revolutionary War and the significant history we have lying beneath our waters,” Swann said. “We also hope they take away that we are more than a lighthouse and have other fun and interesting activities and stories to tell during their visit. In short, we want to exceed their expectations.”



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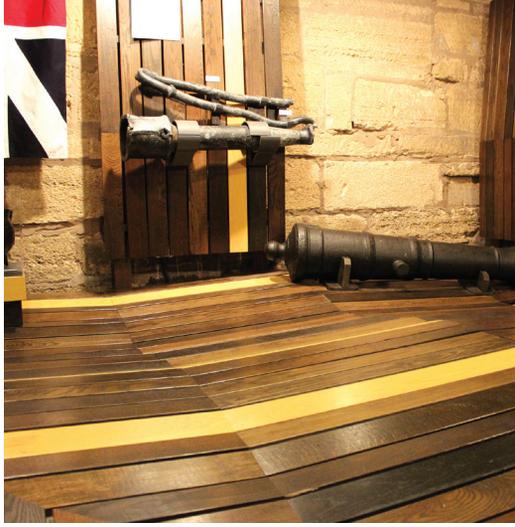
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## ABOUT THE STORM WRECK

The shipwreck, referred to as the Storm Wreck, was first discovered on the final LAMP archaeologist dive in the summer of 2009. Excavations of the shipwreck began the following summer.

The ship is believed to be one of the Loyalist refugee ships to flee Charleston near the end of the Revolutionary War. In 2012, two military buttons were discovered, including one from the 71st Regiment of the British Army which proved to be the "smoking gun" that substantiated the ship's identity. Although the ship's name has yet to be positively identified, LAMP archaeologists continue to dive on the wreck in search of clues and pore through thousands of pages of historical documents in the hope of making a positive identification.



General admission to the St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum is \$12.95 for adults and \$10.95 for seniors ages 60 and over and for children age 12 and under and 44" or taller. Children under 44" tall are admitted free. Behind the Scenes Tours and Tiny Clues, a hands on archaeology activity, are now free with general admission. There are several other kid-friendly activities at the St. Augustine Lighthouse including a shipyard play area, nature trails, wooden boat-building demonstrations and more.

The St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum is located at 81 Lighthouse Avenue, St. Augustine. For more information, call (904) 829-0745 or visit [www.staugustinelighthouse.com](http://www.staugustinelighthouse.com).



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# ROSCOLUSA 2016:

FESTIVAL-GOERS FLOCK  
TO NOCATEE FOR ANNUAL  
SONGWriters' CONCERT

article and photos by CARRIE RESCH



Tom Coughlin Jay  
Fund volunteers  
Luciana Butler and  
Jessica Griffin

Rick Ferrell and  
Kim Paige

Kari Nix and BJ  
Cunard

The threat of rain loomed overhead, with an ominous grey cloud lurking over Nocatee Town Center Field. But after a brief shower, the skies cleared, the sun set and festival-goers settled in for an evening of fun, live music and fundraising at the 5th Annual Roscolusa Songwriters Festival.

“It’s the best turnout that we’ve had and the biggest benefactor crowd that we’ve had,” Roscolusa founder Kim Paige said of the April 23 event. “I’m just really, really enthusiastic and excited and proud.”

In addition to Paige, this year’s Roscolusa festival featured Rick Ferrell, Cassio Monroe, Bruce Wallace, Jesse Rice, Kay Gianna and Phil Barton. Ferrell performed many of the hit songs he wrote for some of the biggest names in country music, including “Something Like That” (the barbecue stain on my white t-shirt song) and “Where Would You Be” by Martina McBride. He also paid tribute to the recent passing of Prince by singing a cover of “Little Red Corvette” and encouraging the crowd to sing along.

The festival offered a relaxed atmosphere, where children ran and played in the field – throwing a football or kicking a soccer ball. Many Nocatee residents arrived at the event via golf cart, and families picnicked on blankets or relaxed in lounge chairs while enjoying the acts. There were also many local vendors on site, including Stubbess, GuanaBana Ice Pops, North Guana Outpost, Belle of the Boulevard, Ponte Vedra Plastic Surgery, the St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce, and many more.

## SONGS BY SONGWRITERS

In 2012, Paige had the idea to host a songwriters’ retreat in her hometown of Ponte Vedra. The first festival had only 150 people in attendance and took place in a private lot located off Roscoe Boulevard, hence the name Roscolusa. The concert event grew exponentially over the years and had to be moved to a larger venue at Nocatee Town Center Field. Concert attendance is now in the thousands, and this is the first year that Paige said she feels Roscolusa is finally becoming a recognizable name among

local live music festivals, thanks in part, she says, to people helping spread the word and promotion for the festival including promotion via social media platforms.

In fact, social media is how Ponte Vedra resident Angie Gray first heard about the event last year. A self-described “big music fan,” Gray said this was her second year in a row attending the festival.

“This is like five minutes from where I live – this is fantastic,” said Gray, noting she was drawn to attend because it benefits the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund to aid children battling cancer. “We’ll come every year for sure. We’re trying to get a bunch of our friends to come, too. It’s a great event.”

Volunteers wearing blue Tom Coughlin Jay Fund t-shirts were scattered throughout the festival, eager to spread the word about the organization and sell raffle tickets for prizes such as horseback riding lessons, posh getaways, golf outings, and facials. All of the proceeds from the raffle benefited the organization. When it came time to do the drawings, representatives from the organization, including volunteer and cancer survivor Luciana Butler took to the stage to share their stories of survival.

Another Jay Fund volunteer, Marie Olsen, is a supporter of the organization because of the help it gave her family when her daughter was diagnosed with cancer.

“My daughter was 19 when she was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia (AML) and the Jay Fund helped us tremendously,” Olsen said. “When she went into remission, (the Jay Fund) gave her tickets to concerts and that kind of thing, so she really felt like she was a normal teenager again.”

The Jay Fund also helped the family financially with bills and money for Christmas, she added.

While Olsen’s daughter lost her battle with the disease, she carries on volunteering with the organization in her honor. “I didn’t even know they existed before my daughter got sick,” she said. “I’m so glad that this community has this.”



Roscolusa founder and singer/songwriter Kim Paige



Susan Wilkinson with her dog Cocoa, Angel Andres and Kristen Nix



Many Nocatee residents arrived at the festival via golf cart.



Rich Buhay, Kyle Buhay and Stephanie Jaroszeski



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# Antiques & More Consignment

## HOLDS GRAND OPENING

article and photos by JASMINE MARSHALL

New Jacksonville Beach store Antiques & More Consignment held its grand opening April 23, ushering in crowds with an array of food trucks, drawings for 100 door prizes and antique wares.

The 10,000 square-foot store at 11270 Beach Blvd. boasts a diverse assortment of antique jewelry, furniture, art and collectibles, each sectioned and styled to show the extent of the collection.

According to store owner Bobbie Eunice, that variety is due in part to the selection going beyond just antiques. Antiques & More Consignment stocks items running the gamut from hand-colored prints made in the late 19th century to mid-century furnishings and vintage media. It's a selection that makes it possible to purchase fine art paintings worth thousands and a box set of M\*A\*S\*H\* VHS cassette tapes in a single visit.

"It's a mix of everything – handmade and sterling jewelry, carved furniture, rare art, vintage, mid-century and antique items," Eunice said. "This location really needed an antique store because (Beach Boulevard) is a place where everyone goes. And there's something for everybody here."

Its inventory is bolstered with the help of more than 15 dealers,

from the repurposed and refurbished vintage furniture and decor of Gypsea Trading Co., to marble furnishings, fine art paintings and memorabilia from First Coast Antiques.

"Everything is chosen very selectively," said Richard Mette of First Coast Antiques. "We go for very unique, unusual things that can't be found elsewhere and try to choose things that are different."

Included in Antiques & More Consignment's collection are four original watercolor paintings by Jacksonville-based portrait artist Ann Manry Kenyon from the late 1970s and early 1980s and one pet portrait by her son, St. Augustine based artist Andrew Manry Kenyon.

Other items, such as a vintage Florida State University football signed by former Seminoles head coach Bobby Bowden, wedding gowns and lighting fixtures illustrate the mixed selection in the storefront.

"Things will change daily," Gypsea Trading Co.'s Michelle Warren said. "Just about everything is one-of-a-kind. Stock is selective and unique so if you see something you like, snap it up!"

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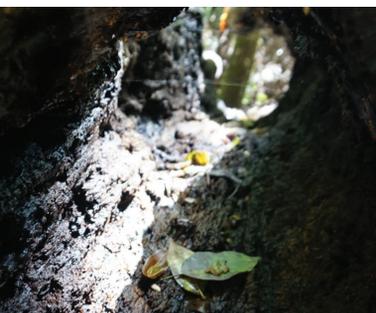
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# Back to Nature

## JACKSONVILLE'S HIDDEN GEMS

article and photos by JASMINE MARSHALL



Jacksonville is nothing short of a sprawling city; a mashup of metropolis and urban core, backwaters and rivers, creeks and beaches. To say a consistent landscape exists on the First Coast would be to ignore the long stretches of tangled roads and ramps and the aging towers of downtown, not-so-quiet suburbia, the roar of the beaches and quieter, rural neighborhoods. But one thing unifies Jacksonville from corner to corner: an abundance of nature. No matter the location – along the edge of the central business district, by the river and off every beaten path – it's hard to find a stretch of land on the First Coast that isn't characterized by the natural world. And thankfully, much of it is preserved in local gardens and nature trails just waiting to be explored.

### JACKSONVILLE ARBORETUM AND GARDENS

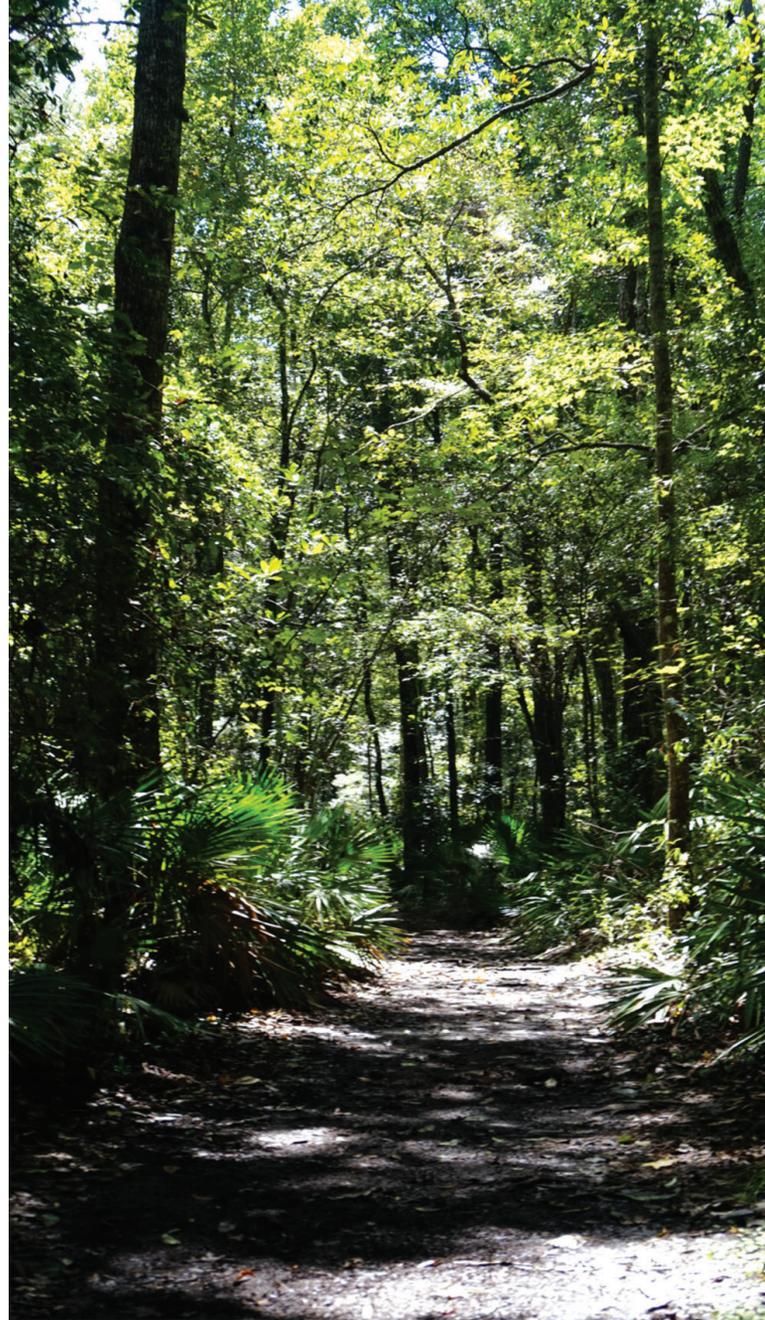
Jacksonville's Arboretum and Gardens can most succinctly be described as "shire-like;" despite stretching more than 100 acres, the property is tucked in a pocket off of Monument and Millcoie roads that is easily missed. Distinguished by lush canopies created by large oak trees overflowing with Spanish moss, a central lake surrounded by forestry, and a ravine, the site features

seven trails ranging in difficulty from "easy" to "more difficult." It's also a popular spot for wedding and engagement photography and picnics.

Its scenic views and tranquil atmosphere betray nothing of its history as the site of strip mines formerly operated by Humphries Gold Mining Co., where minerals for titanium were mined from 1944 to 1961, proving detrimental to the plant life there. The former site of surface mining would see a shuffle of sorts up until 2004, when a group of locals jumped into action to get the city to lease the property for recreational use after it was largely ignored in the early 1970s following a purchase by the City of Jacksonville. Four years later, in November 2008, the Arboretum and Gardens officially opened to the public. The arboretum acts as a living testament to the efforts of Jacksonville's locals to preserve the city's nature, with all of the trails, boardwalks, benches and tables made by community volunteers.

### UNIVERSITY OF NORTH FLORIDA NATURE TRAILS

Students of UNF know how deeply entwined the 42-year-old campus is with natural life. Flocks of Canada geese migrate to the



1300-acre property every winter, waddling in single file between the Student Union and Thomas G. Carpenter Library, and entire parking lots are marked by the nature trails that surround them and push the commute to the main campus back five minutes via shuttle.

UNF's Robert W. Loftin Nature Trails, meanwhile, protect hundreds of acres of natural habitat on the campus' Sawmill Slough Preserve with five routes free and open to the public. The Red Maple Boardwalk, Goldenrod, Big Cypress Loop, Blueberry and Gopher Tortoise Ridge trails all house the plant and animal life the university is committed to preserving. Red Maple Boardwalk's wooden walkway treks over Buckhead Branch Swamp, offering an unobscured view of Lake Oneida, where students can frequently be seen taking "eco-adventures" aboard kayaks. Goldenrod, so named for the flowering plants that bloom on the trail in the fall, clocks in at nearly three miles and runs through a spectrum of natural habitats. Big Cypress Loop circles a grandfather Cypress tree and connects Goldenrod to Blueberry Trail, a one and a half mile journey through pine flatwoods and deep swamp. Finally, at Gopher Tortoise Ridge, a sizeable Gopher Tortoise population –

and the small animals they provide underground homes for – can be found.

### **BIG TALBOT ISLAND STATE PARK**

Sprawling and mysterious, Big Talbot has long since been a premier destination for outdoor enthusiasts across the board. Engagement photo shoots, bird watching sessions, picnicking and nature study all meet at the sea island park and nature preserve boasting several trails and park facilities. Salt marshes, flatwoods and sun-bleached driftwood are a sampling of Big Talbot Island's expansive landscape. A picnic area funnels into the Shoreline Trail, where Nassau Sound and the "boneyard" of driftwood trees that litter the shore can be reached. Off of A1A are Black Rock Trail, Big Pine Trail, Old Kings Highway Trail and Jones Cut Trail. Of varied difficulty, these historic routes offer views of gopher tortoises, woodpeckers, ospreys and even white-tailed deer through Big Talbot's brush. Visitors can also enjoy a shady, blanketed picnic area and the multi-use, paved Timucuan Trails for family outings.



# KITCHEN ON SAN MARCO CELEBRATES FIRST ANNIVERSARY, INTRODUCES NEW SPRING MENUS

by JENNIFER LOGUE

New spring culinary offerings and a commitment to using locally sourced fare are on the menu this season at Kitchen on San Marco, which recently celebrated its first anniversary.

Located at 1402 San Marco Blvd. in Jacksonville, the gastropub combines an urban contemporary décor with fresh, farm-to-table cuisine that pays tribute to Executive Chef Ryan Randolph's southern roots. A recent special preview brunch, for example, featured deviled egg toast featuring Louisiana crawfish and Benton's country ham, fried green tomatoes with Georgia peaches and lump crab, and cast iron hoecakes with fried chicken and muddy pond sorghum glaze.

Other new spring lunch and dinner offerings include an oyster and shrimp po' boy, cast iron mac and cheese, and a short rib with aged cheddar, grits and fried okra. The new brunch menu, meanwhile, includes traditional items such as griddle cakes and French toast along with grilled oysters, mimosas and "beermosas" made with

orange juice and Swamphead, one of approximately two dozen craft beers available at the gastropub.

"While our menu changes seasonally, it continues to be focused on locally and regionally sourced food," General Manager Eve Markowicz said.

And while many restaurants claim allegiance to "locally sourced food," Kitchen on San Marco backs up that pledge on its menu by listing many of its purveyors, including Anson Mills, French Pantry and Congaree and Penn.

Markowicz said the response to Kitchen on San Marco's menu and craft beer offerings during its inaugural year has been enthusiastic.

"The community and guest response keeps us passionate about what we do and how we do it," she said. "We are thrilled to be part of Jacksonville's vibrant dining and flourishing craft beer scene – we are looking forward to serving the community for years to come!"

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# MONSTERS



## IN MY CLOSET

VINTAGE AND COLLECTIBLE TOY STORE  
SERVES UP 70S, 80S AND 90S NOSTALGIA

by CARRIE RESCH

Most children were terrified of the idea of monsters in their closets, but as adults, Monsters In My Closet – as in the new Jacksonville toy store – has a draw for both toy collectors and those wishing to recapture some of the elements from their youth.

Located on Stockton Street in Riverside, Monsters In My Closet is a vintage and collectible toy store stocked with vintage toys from the 70s, 80s and 90s. The store's green and purple walls are lined with a collection of vintage plastic Halloween masks, and display cases are filled with collectible items such as Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, He-Man, ThunderCats, Transformers, My Little Pony and Pokémon figures.

Owner Lars Lundquist said the store was something he dreamed of but never thought could be possible.

"The right spot at the right time popped up, and I went for it," said Lundquist, who also works as a tattoo artist at Inksmith & Rogers next door.

Prior to opening the shop, Lundquist had participated in toy shows, selling the extra collectibles he had gathered over the years. Personally, he has been a collector of vintage toys for about the past 10 years. Originally he collected first generation Transformers from the 1980s, but they were ultimately ruined due to smoke damage from a house fire. He began collecting again, this time with more lines he had or wanted as a kid – ThunderCats, Dino-Riders, M.A.S.K., He-Man and just about anything from that era, he said.

Monsters In My Closet opened March 5. Besides toys, the store sells books, board games, plush toys and other pop culture items related

to the 70s-90s era. Customers wanting to recapture the nostalgia of watching movies on VHS tapes can rent one of the many VHS tapes on the rental wall, including rare horror films.

"I'm trying to bring the fun back into watching movies," Lundquist said. "We have close to 1,000 hard-to-find titles that will take you right back to the 80s."

Lundquist said he's also working on a concession stand that will include popcorn mixes made just for the shop, vegan candy bars and old-time bottled sodas – everything you need for that perfect movie night, he said.

Inside the store, customers will find a vintage X-men arcade game console and a vintage Coca-Cola vending machine stocked with bottles of Mexican Coke, Crush, Squirt, Mountain Dew and cans of Surge. Star Wars-themed terrariums are also on display and available for purchase at the store. Old television shows or cartoons play on a television behind the counter.

In the short time the store has been open, Monsters In My Closet has participated in community events such as the Stockton Street Block Party May 28 that benefited Friends of Jacksonville Animals, Inc. and a special "May the 4th" Be With You" sale on Star Wars items. Pending availability, The Vegan Hot Dog Cart – based in Orlando and St. Augustine – will be at the store the first Saturday of every month.

Monsters In My Closet is located at 877 Stockton St., Jacksonville. Hours of operation are: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from noon to 6 p.m., Saturday from noon to 7 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. The store is closed on Tuesdays.



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