EAST COAST
CURRENT
A VOLUSIA LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE | SEEVOLUSIA.COM

FREE
OCTOBER 2026
VOL. 12 ISSUE 10

Boo & Beware
Halloween Events
+ BREVARD ZOO AFTER DARK



Authors
on the River
+ A LITERARY LUNCHEON IN NSB

ECC OCT 2026.indd 1 9/29/26 1:09 PM



ECC OCT 2026.indd 1 9/29/26 1:09 PM

Weekly Bus Tours

5 Properties

Every Saturday at 9am



- ✓ Tour half-acre-plus homesites
- ✓ Choose from our home plans or design your own
- ✓ 22,000sqft design studio
- ✓ Homes from $400,000
- ✓ 3% Realtor commission on the sale of the house

Mimosas & Lobster Rolls Served

RSVP TO TOUR

386.220.3309

MEET AT 9:00 AM

Coomber Construction - Home Design Center

4030 S Ridgewood Ave Port Orange, FL 32127



Candice Brooks

Real Estate Advisor

candice.brooks@evrealestate.com

ENGEL&VÖLKERS®

*Home displayed without land cost and custom upgrades.

©2026 Engel & Völkers. All rights reserved. Each brokerage independently owned and operated.

ECC OCT 2026.indd 2 9/29/26 1:09 PM





Cover Photo BY: PAUL MARCELLINI

Titled: Celestial Cypress. The Milky Way shines over a lone cypress sometime after midnight on Blue Cypress Lake, Florida. This image won silver in the 2014 International Loupe Awards and 3rd in the 8th Annual International Garden Photographer of the Year.

For prints visit his website PaulMarcellini.com and follow him on Instagram @PaulMarcellini for more incredible photographs.

What's *Inside*

EAST COAST CURRENT
OCTOBER 2026 | VOL. 12 ISSUE 10

7 **Understanding Amendment 3**
Amendment 3 would expand Florida's homestead exemption, changing property tax savings for homeowners and revenue for local governments.

10 **Crafted Stories**
Central Florida artists share family stories, cultural traditions and heritage through the handmade works featured in By Heart and By Hand.

18 **Worth Knowing**
Simple smartphone automations can save time by turning everyday routines into easy shortcuts, reminders and hands-free actions.

19 **Calendar of Events**
A collection of events, activities and things to do happening in and around Volusia County.

24 **Bobby G Spills the Tea**
Rise Yaupon and Wildflour Market bring together local flavor, family and community in Edgewater.

25 **FL or Bust**
Brevard Zoo is doubling the Halloween fun this October with daytime trick-or-treating and a new after-dark experience featuring spooky trails, haunted rides and scares for older kids.

27 **Housing Answers**
The Southeast Volusia Homeownership Expo & Forum brings local experts and resources together to help residents make informed decisions about buying, owning and planning for a home.

29 **Explore West Volusia**
Trade the summer heat for vibrant autumn street festivals, cultural gatherings, and historic traditions with our guide to fall in West Volusia.

33 **The Boat Coach**
Abandoned and derelict boats can threaten local waterways, property and marine life, but owners have options before removal becomes necessary.

35 **Fishing Report & Tide Chart**
Everything you need to know before hitting the water in Volusia County.

ECC OCT 2026.indd 3 9/29/26 1:09 PM

SAVE OUR LAND | SLOW THE GROWTH | BE THE DIFFERENCE

SLOW
THE
GROWTH
VOLUSIA

VOTE NOVEMBER 3RD

BRYON WHITE

★ County Council District 3 ★



SLOW THE GROWTH

- Protect Ecosystems
- Improve Our Traffic
- Prevent Flooding
- Lower Taxes

ECONOMIC STRENGTH

Expand our Tax Base
Local Higher Paying Jobs
Opportunity for Young People
Keep the Jobs We Have

QUALITY OF LIFE

Ease Traffic
Protect Wild Spaces
Invest in the Arts
Strengthen Infrastructure

VoteBryonWhite.com

Paid political advertisement by Bryon White for Volusia County Council District 3

ECC OCT 2026.indd 4 9/29/26 1:09 PM



Editor's *Letter*

Beyond the Page: Bringing Local Authors, Readers and Stories Together

Well, fall showed up right on schedule. The first official week of fall actually brought us some cooler weather - even if it was mostly in the mornings. I'll take it. Thank you, Mother Earth.

And now that we're into October, we're getting even closer to something I am really excited about: Authors on the River: A Literary Luncheon, happening Saturday, Oct. 24, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at The Grille at Riverview in New Smyrna Beach.

In my last letter, I mentioned we were still looking for our third featured author. Well, we found him, and our lineup is officially complete. I'm excited to welcome Sean Donovan, a published author, author coach, ghostwriter and publishing consultant. I've known Sean for more than 10 years, and he brings a unique perspective both as an author and as someone who helps others bring their stories to life.

Sean joins Shelley Lynch and Lee Davis Jr. for the event. Each author will have time to share their story, talk about their work and give us a little peek behind the curtain. I'll be moderating, introducing each author and then leading a Q&A after all three presentations.

Want to learn more about them before the event? Scan the QR code on this page. It will take you to the same place where you can purchase tickets, read more about our featured authors and find links to their websites.

When you arrive, you'll get seated upstairs in The Promenade overlooking the Intracoastal Waterway, put in your lunch order and settle in. After lunch, the presentations and our Q&A, we'll head downstairs to the Reef Bar for a meet-and-greet. Each author will have a table where you can purchase books, have them signed, take photos and spend some time talking with the people behind the stories.

Tickets are $35 and include admission, lunch, one nonalcoholic beverage, tax and gratuity. Of course, cocktails will also be available for purchase because if you'd rather sip champagne than sweet tea during our event, who am I to stop you?

Lunch choices include the turkey avocado croissant sandwich, my personal favorite, the new herb-crusted salmon salad, their classic chicken Francese and pasta primavera for our vegetarian option.

We can only sell 60 tickets, and at the time of writing this, we are at 50, so if you want to come, don't wait too long.

The easiest way to purchase yours is to scan the QR code. You can also visit SeeVolusia.com and click "Signature Events," call The Grille at Riverview or stop in the restaurant and purchase your ticket in person.

And if you've never been to The Grille at Riverview, you're in for a treat. Located at 101 Flagler Ave., tucked beneath the North Causeway, the restaurant has been part of New Smyrna Beach for more than 20 years and has one of the prettiest views around. You can read more about it in my feature on pages 15 of this issue.

One of my favorite things to come out of announcing this event has been hearing from so many local authors. I received emails from people all over our area, and one thing has become very clear: We're going to have to do this again.

There is just something different about holding a book in your hands, meeting the person who wrote it and hearing the story behind the story. I think we need more opportunities to connect like that.

So, come have lunch with us. Meet some incredible local authors. Buy a book. Get it signed. Hear a good story and maybe share one of your own.

And if you're a local author interested in being part of a future Authors on the River event, come introduce yourself.

I'll see you there.

XO, Tiffany Sudakis

Tiffany Sudakis | Editor in Chief

EAST COAST CURRENT

Editor in Chief
Tiffany Sudakis | 386-314-8583
Tiffany@ecctoldme.com

Chief Financial Officer
Kelsey Walters
Kelsey@ecctoldme.com

COLUMNISTS

Mimi McKee
Scotty Sudakis
Cassie Gonyer
Danielle Napolitano
Erica Acevedo
Patrick Eichstaedt
Capt. Mark Kellum

ADVERTISING

Maximize your business' visibility with the East Coast Current magazine. Contact our dedicated sales team today at Sales@ecctoldme.com and unlock unparalleled opportunities for your brand.

SeeVolusia.com
For Even More Local Information

SOCIALS: @ECCTOLDME

East Coast Current, a Volusia County-based magazine, has spent the past decade highlighting the people, businesses, and events that make our community special. Trusted by readers for the latest in community events, valuable information, and resources, ECC is committed to sharing stories that inspire, connect, and uplift. The magazine has remained a steadfast source of positivity and connection, and is celebrating 11 years in business this year. The views and opinions expressed by contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of the publication or its staff.







ECC OCT 2026.indd 6 9/29/26 1:09 PM

Local News

Understanding Amendment 3: Your Home, Your Tax Bill, Your Vote



Along with the candidates on the November 3 ballot, Volusia County voters will find a question that lands close to home. Amendment 3 would change how much homeowners pay in property taxes. It would also change how local governments pay for the services residents count on every day, including fire protection, local parks maintenance, municipal sports fields upkeep, public libraries and public roadways. It needs 60 percent voter approval to pass. If approved, the changes would take effect January 1, 2027.

Currently, Volusia homeowners receive a homestead exemption of about $51,000. Amendment 3 would raise the exemption on non-school property taxes to $150,000 in 2027 and $250,000 in 2028. School taxes are handled separately. According to the Volusia County Property Appraiser's Office, only the first $25,000 of a home's assessed value would remain exempt from school taxes, so most property owners would still receive a school tax bill.

The amendment would also lower the cap on how much the assessed value of non-homesteaded property, like second homes, rental properties and commercial buildings, can rise each year from 10 percent to 5 percent.

Some longtime homeowners are concerned if they would lose their Save Our Homes (SOH) benefit. Approved by Florida voters in 1992, SOH keeps a homestead's taxable value from rising as fast as the market, so owners who have stayed in the same home for years often pay taxes on less than what their homes are worth. According to the property appraiser, homeowners would not lose SOH. Portability benefits would also stay in place.

Portability lets homeowners who sell and buy another Florida home take their SOH savings with them, up to $500,000 of the difference between their old home's market value and its assessed value. Homeowners have up to three years to establish a new homestead and must apply through Volusia's property appraiser.

In other words, the larger exemption would be added on top of the protection homeowners already have.

According to the Proposed Florida Property Tax Amendment 3 Frequently Asked Questions, found on the Property Appraiser's website, VCPA.vcgov.org, using the countywide average tax rate, estimates a homestead would save about $1,164 in 2027 and $2,345 in 2028. Actual savings will vary by property.

Not everyone would see the same benefit. People who establish Florida residency on or after January 1, 2027, would start with a $50,000 exemption and become eligible for the larger exemption in their fifth year. Owners of second homes and rental properties would not receive the homestead exemption but would benefit from the lower 5 percent cap. Renters would not receive a direct tax break.

Property taxes help pay for police, fire rescue, roads, parks and other local services. The Florida Revenue Estimating Conference, a panel of state economists that estimates cost of legislation, estimated Amendment 3 would reduce local government revenue statewide by about $5 billion in its first year and as much as $12 billion a year once fully in place.

Some Volusia cities are already planning for the possibility. According to a news release published on CityofNSB.com, in New Smyrna Beach, city officials estimated in July that the city could lose $4.5 million in property tax revenue in 2028 if the amendment passes. On September 8, the City Commission established an annual "fire assessment" to fund about $2.4 million in fire protection services, along with a $100,000 program to help eligible low-income homeowners cover the fee.

How Amendment 3 affects each household will depend on whether residents own or rent, how long they have lived in their homes and where in the county they live. Questions remain about how local governments would adjust their budgets if passed. Residents can find estimates and answers to common questions on the Volusia County Property Appraiser's website at VCPA.vcgov.org

For official information regarding the proposed constitutional amendment, please refer to information published by the Florida Legislature, Florida Department of State, Florida Department of Revenue, and other official state sources.



MIMI MCKEE | 386-576-7722 | @NSBMimi

Mimi McKee is a Realtor with Ocean Properties & Management Inc. and a member of the NSB Board of Realtors. She relocated from Atlanta, GA in 2005 and is "Loving Living at the Beach."

Any information provided for this news column is based on personal research and analysis and does not reflect the views or opinions of Ocean Properties & Management Inc.

ECC OCT 2026.indd 7 9/29/26 1:09 PM

Insurance *Insights*

Before the Storm. After the Storm. Call Trust Public Adjusting Group.



Preparing before a storm and documenting your property in advance can make recovery and the insurance claim process easier if damage occurs.

One of the most important things you can do before a storm is contact Trust Public Adjusting Group for a free pre-storm property inspection and documentation. Don't wait until damage occurs. Having professional documentation of your property's condition beforehand can be extremely valuable if you later need to prove what damage was caused by a hurricane or tropical storm.

We are right in the middle of the most active part of hurricane season, and now is the time to prepare... not when a storm is already at our doorstep.

Our team can inspect and photograph your property, document its pre-loss condition, and review your insurance policy with you. We can also help you understand important provisions such as your hurricane deductible and potential coverage limitations. Think of it as establishing a "before" picture of your property while everything is still intact.

Homeowners should also take their own photographs and videos of the roof, exterior, windows, fencing, pool, landscaping, interior, and personal belongings. Keep your insurance policy and other important documents somewhere waterproof and accessible.

Of course, protecting your family comes first. Stock drinking water, non-perishable food, medications, flashlights, batteries, and supplies for children and pets. Fuel your vehicles, charge phones and backup batteries, secure outdoor furniture, prepare shutters, and know your evacuation route.

Then, if a storm does hit, make contacting Trust Public Adjusting Group one of your priorities as soon as it is safe to do so.

Proper post-storm documentation can be just as important as your pre-storm documentation. Our team can return to the property, inspect for storm-related damage, photograph and document the conditions, and help determine the appropriate next steps. Damage is not always obvious, and making repairs too quickly can sometimes eliminate important evidence of what actually occurred.

The combination of professional documentation before the storm and immediately after the storm can provide a much clearer picture of your property's condition and strengthen the documentation available if a claim becomes necessary.

Don't wait for a hurricane warning to start preparing.

Call Trust Public Adjusting Group now for your free pre-storm property inspection and policy review. Then, if a storm impacts your property, call us as soon as possible afterward so we can properly document the damage and help you through the insurance claim process.

Before the storm. After the storm. We're here to help.



TRUST PUBLIC ADJUSTING GROUP

Sterling Scott | License #W333253
Call: 386-456-6885 | Text: 850-708-2582
trustpublicadjustinggroup.com
claims@TrustPublicAdjusting.com

ECC OCT 2026.indd 8 9/29/26 1:09 PM

Daytona
FLEA & FARMERS
MARKET
Celebrating 45 Years!
Classic Car Cruise-In
1st Saturday Every Month!
EVERY FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY
HALLOWEEN
Market-wide Scavenger Hunt
Starts at 11 AM
Children's Costume Contest
1 PM
Adult's Costume Contest
Following children's contest
Trick-or-Treat
All day at participating vendors
WIN FLEA BUCKS & TROPHIES!
Saturday, Oct 31st at 11 AM
for kids up to age 12
1425 Tomoka Farms Rd, Daytona Beach FL
386.253.3330 DaytonaFleaMarket.com

proud to protect
New Smyrna Beach
Melanie Emanuel
386-427-0565
530 Canal St New Smyrna Beach
memanuel@allstate.com
Allstate.
Subject to terms, conditions & availability. Allstate Fire and Casualty Ins. Co. & affiliates: 3100 Sanders Rd. Northbrook, IL. © 2023 Allstate Insurance Co. GM20140

GET YOUR POOL READY
FOR SWIM SEASON!
$1000 OFF
Pool & Tile Combo
$500 OFF
Interior Surface Only
LIMITED TIME OFFER
Ask us how to QUALIFY for deep discounts on converting your pool from chlorine to salt!
FREE REMODEL ESTIMATE!
Backyard Pool and Spa Repair, LLC
Proudly Serving Greater Volusia County & Palm Coast
Ormond Beach • Daytona Beach • Holly Hill • South Daytona • Port Orange
New Smyrna Beach • Edgewater • Oak Hill
(386) 402-6742
BackyardPoolandSpaLLC.com
Licensed & Insured #CPC1457910
P.O. Box 305 • New Smyrna Beach, FL 32170

A Voice for Working Families
Send a Teacher
to Tallahassee
Judy
NGYING
FLORIDA SENATE • FL-8
After 28 years teaching in our public schools, I am running to protect education, lower costs for working families and defend our freedoms.
VOTE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD
Paid For by Judy Ngying, Democrat, for State Senate, District 8

ECC OCT 2026.indd 9 9/29/26 1:09 PM

Crafted Stories

Where Art, Ancestry and Personal History Come Together



Last month, I had the honor of attending the media day for the opening of the Orange County Regional History Center's newest exhibit, "By Heart and By Hand." The artists themselves were on hand to present and share their crafts with guests and I had the chance to speak with two of them.

According to the History Center, "By Heart and By Hand is a powerful celebration of artistry, heritage, and community, showcasing the work of Black craft artists across Central Florida. Rooted in traditions passed down through generations, the special exhibition explores how contemporary makers draw on ancestral knowledge, family stories, and cultural practices to create works that are both deeply personal and widely resonant."

The first maker I talked to was Orlando-based quilter and mixed media artist, Lisa Moore (*featured picture*). While meeting, she revealed the art she was standing next to featured a picture of herself as a child. Each piece of fabric brought pieces of her life together on the canvas.



Lisa Mills-Alexander also uses quilts as the base of her craft and then adds paint and textured materials. Mills-Alexander moved to Florida from New York, so her artwork tells stories of both locations: playing in fire hydrants in the summers in New York and an ode to her quilting community in Florida. She was standing next to an image of her parents on a train that includes photographs of her whole family and a piece of her mother's wedding dress sewn onto the canvas.

The exhibit included a hands-on activity based on these quilts, too. There was a magnetic image on a wall that featured stitch lines, similar to what you would see on fabric. A basket on the wall holds magnets of people, animals, and objects that you can add to the quilt wall to tell a story. For example, a couple dancing on a stage while a nearby picnic takes place.

Some of the other textiles that I saw were clothing, for both adults and dolls, and teddy bears. Outside of fabric, there were handcrafted African and African-derived musical instruments and wooden sculptures. Every craft includes a plaque explaining more about each of the eight artists and their family's story.

While the makers won't always be at the exhibit, there is a station where you can hear audio interviews from each in their own words. Their work in By Heart and By Hand will be on display through March 2027. It was only about an hour drive from my home in Daytona Beach to Downtown Orlando, so be sure to make time for this historically and artistically rich exhibition.



CASSIE GONYER | CASSIE@ECCTOLDME.COM

Lives in Daytona Beach with her husband, three daughters, two housemates, and a "doug" (dachshund- pug mix dog). She loves exploring and promoting the food, shops and events that Daytona has to offer. You can follow her local adventures at @CassGoAroundDaytona on Instagram.

Have a story idea for Cassie? Reach out to her directly at Cassie@ECCToldMe.com — she'd love to hear from you!

ECC OCT 2026.indd 10 9/29/26 1:09 PM

#ECC *Told Me*

1 The Little Theatre of NSB Presents Jekyll & Hyde

The Little Theatre of New Smyrna Beach invites audiences to experience Jekyll & Hyde, a bold gothic pop-rock musical filled with passion, danger, powerful music, and haunting emotion.



PERFORMANCE DATES & TIMES:
Evenings at 7:30 PM – October 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 22, 23 & 24

Matinees at 2:00 PM
October 11, 18 & 25

Based on Robert Louis Stevenson's classic novella The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, this dramatic musical tells the story of Dr. Henry Jekyll, a well-meaning but misguided scientist determined to separate good from evil. Believing he can neutralize darkness so that goodness may prevail, Jekyll develops a serum and seeks permission from hospital leadership to test it on a patient. When his request is denied, he makes the fateful decision to perform the experiment on himself.

The result unleashes Edward Hyde, a violent and dangerous alter ego who terrorizes London and pulls Jekyll deeper into a tragic struggle he can no longer control. As his life unravels, the story explores ambition, obsession, love, morality, and the darkness that can exist within.


Photo by Dan Carriero

With its gothic atmosphere and soaring score, Jekyll & Hyde features several well-known musical numbers, including "Lost in the Darkness," "Façade," "This is the Moment," "Someone Like You" and "Confrontation."

Don't miss this gripping and emotional musical experience at The Little Theatre of New Smyrna Beach.

The Little Theatre of New Smyrna Beach
726 E 3rd Ave, New Smyrna Beach 32169
(386) 423-1246 | NSBplayers.org



2 Fall Is Full of Free Fun: Community Events to Add to Your Calendar

October and November are packed with events! Whether you're looking for a night out with friends, family-friendly Halloween fun, an opportunity to support local vendors, helpful resources, or a jump-start on holiday shopping, Touch of Magic Events has something on the calendar for everyone.

Even better, all of the events featured below are free to attend!

October 7 - Tanger Outlets Night Market
The fall lineup begins Wednesday, October 7th when the Night Market returns to Tanger Outlets Daytona. Guests can enjoy an evening of shopping and community while enjoying the lively atmosphere of a nighttime market filled with specialty foods, handmade crafts, food trucks, and live music from 5pm-9pm.

October 8 & November 12 - Port Orange Monthly Girls Night Out
Grab your friends and make plans for Girls Night Out! Hosted at the Riverside Pavilion from 6pm-9pm, this night is designed for women 18+. Learn about local resources for women, shop with vendors and enjoy free mocktails, pampering, adult crafts, and giveaways.

October 17 - Daytona Tortugas Halloween Bash
Halloween arrives early with the Halloween Bash at Jackie Robinson Ballpark. Stop in from 11am-3pm to enjoy a fun & safe trick-or-treating event. Trick-or-treating on the ballfield, free kids activities, local vendors, and food trucks make this a must attend event.

October 21 & November 18 - Port Orange Monthly Night Market
The Night Market returns to the Riverside Pavilion on Wednesday, October 21st. Stop in from 5pm-8pm and spend the evening discovering new finds, grabbing a meal from a food truck, listening to music, and enjoying the market atmosphere.

November 22 - Volusia Senior Expo
Held on Sunday, November 22nd from 11am-3pm at the Brannon Center, the Senior Expo is designed to connect seniors and caregivers with valuable resources, services, and activities to help them stay healthy, happy, and informed. Free refreshments, health screenings, and more.

November 28 - Daytona Holiday Market
Looking for an event filled with fun, creativity, and Holiday excitement? Visit the Riverfront Esplanade on Saturday, November 28th from 10am-3pm to shop local on Small Business Saturday! Enjoy holiday-themed performances and free face painting, crafts, games, bounce house and more fun.

Interested in featuring your business at one of these events? Touch of Magic Events has several sponsor and vendor opportunities available. Please email info@touchofmagicevents.com for more information.

Touch of Magic Events
touchofmagicevents.com
FB & Insta: @touchofmagiceventsllc

ECC OCT 2026.indd 11 9/29/26 1:09 PM

3 Behind the Blend: The Story of Rise Yaupon's Healthy Kick Yaupon Tea

Rise Yaupon's top selling-tea was developed with wellness in mind, but its formulation was a true family affair.



All of Rise Yaupon's teas start with a foundation of Yaupon Holly; North America's only naturally caffeinated plant that grows wild here in Volusia County. Yaupon tea was used medicinally for thousands of years and now we know why; it is a natural anti-inflammatory and antioxidant super food, loaded with polyphenols and flavonoids. Having Yaupon as the base of a wellness-forward blend is a great starting point.

"In our prototype tea we blended yaupon with ingredients that we thought were health-promoting. Unfortunately, it tasted terrible and my sister (a physician), challenged why we made those ingredient choices. At that point, she took over and created the Healthy Kick ingredient panel: cinnamon, ginger, rose hips, rose petals, and hibiscus," says Rise's president, Shelly Steele.



"From there, the family formulated the recipe - tweaking with the help of friends and family - and created what is now Healthy Kick Tea. The secret is having a balance of flavors with nothing too overpowering. We didn't want to ruin the smooth, tannin-free finish of Yaupon."

As fall rolls around, come try this unique local tea that has a warming spice and floral finish flavor profile - and see for yourself why it's become a best seller. Rise offers free samples and factory tours in their Edgewater facility, Tuesday and Thursday mornings are best.

Scan for more about our free factory tours!

Rise Yaupon Tea
504 Pullman Road | Edgewater, FL 32132
Open Monday–Friday 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Facebook: @riseyaupon | Instagram: @riseyaupontea



4 A Better Fit Is Coming to New Smyrna Beach

Let's be honest: How many of us actually know our correct bra size? A lot of women spend years buying the same size, ordering online and hoping for the best, without ever having a proper fitting.

That's about to change.

Shantilly's, a new lingerie and specialty boutique opening in early November in New Smyrna Beach's Spanish Plaza, is bringing a new experience to town.



As the only locally owned boutique of its kind in Volusia County, Shantilly's will offer personalized bra fittings along with a carefully curated collection of lingerie, sleepwear, shapewear, jewelry and specialty pieces.

Shantilly's is stocking pieces you'll want to feel and try on in person, from incredibly soft, buttery sleepwear you'll want to live in to beautiful lingerie and everyday essentials.

The beautifully designed space will create the perfect backdrop for private events, including bridal showers, girls' afternoons and other celebrations. Add champagne, personalized shopping and a group of your favorite people, and planning a get-together here feels simple.

The boutique will also offer complimentary gift wrapping, making it easy to pick up something beautiful for yourself or someone else. Tucked away from the main shopping area, the boutique will also feature a private adults-only collection for those wanting something a little more intimate.

Follow Shantilly's on Facebook for the official opening date, special events and new arrivals.

Shantilly's | Lingerie & Intimates
OPENING NOVEMBER!
630 E 3rd Avenue | NSB 32169

5 Dutch Oven Celebrates Their First Year!

We can't believe it's been a year! There have been many ups and downs, but a year in, Dutch Oven Bread Co. has found its rhythm. We still think about opening week. The first transport of product from our kitchen to the bakery, people lining up outside, and seeing the same faces who'd supported us from the very beginning standing first in line. It was so surreal!



Our story started in 2020 during Covid, when we both lost our jobs and leaned on our backgrounds - restaurant work, hobby baking and entrepreneurship - to start making bread and sweets out of our home kitchen. From there, we worked pop-ups and markets to get our name and product into the community's hands, all while developing recipes and building a team.



This year brought real milestones, including winning Community's Choice for Best Bakery in Volusia-Flagler! It also brought real growing pains, specifically learning to communicate as a team with very different styles and strong opinions. Fab has become the hands-on overseer at the bakery, while Candice has shifted to working on the business: networking, advertising, and empowering our employees to create and lead with confidence.

That shift shows. The bakery now runs smoothly without Candice there full-time and during the slower season, Tuesdays run without either owner present. That's a credit to our team's dedication and patience as everyone finds their flow!

Customers keep asking for three things: iced coffee, a toasted bagel with cream cheese, and a way to warm up pastries. We're listening, and we're working on it!

Thank you for choosing us, budgeting for us, voting for us, and being patient as we grow slowly, the way we always have.

Come celebrate with us on Saturday, October 10 at 120 Canal St for our 1st birthday party!

With so much love,

Fab & Candice

Dutch Oven Bread Co.
120 Canal St., New Smyrna Beach 32168
(386) 689-9001 | DutchOvenBreads.com
Loyalty Program: Text JOIN to 844-470-1779



6 The Cost of Cutting Culture: Why Arts Funding Matters in Volusia County

Volusia County didn't make a tough budget decision when it cut arts funding last year. It made a bad one.

The council eliminated $611,758 in arts and cultural grants from a $1.4 billion budget, arguing the money should instead go toward core services like infrastructure. Sidewalks were specifically mentioned.

But look at the scale. That money barely funds a meaningful stretch of sidewalk, while arts investments generate economic activity and help make Volusia County a place people want to live and visit.

Consider the IMAGES Festival in New Smyrna Beach. In 2025, it drew more than 50,000 people, including thousands of visitors from outside Volusia County. They ate at restaurants, stayed in hotels and vacation rentals, and spent money at local businesses.

Even using conservative assumptions, the economics are compelling. If half of those attendees were visitors and spent an average of $100 each, that's $2.5 million in direct spending flowing through our local economy. The county's investment in IMAGES? Just over $30,000.

Would you invest $30,000 in an event capable of generating millions in local economic activity? Of course you would.

Research from the Florida Division of Arts and Culture and Americans for the Arts has repeatedly found that arts and cultural activity supports jobs, drives spending, and generates tax revenue.

So why cut it?

Because it was easier to target something labeled "non-essential" than make harder decisions about a $1.4 billion county budget. It was political theater disguised as fiscal responsibility.

I agree that Volusia County should scrutinize spending and cut waste. But responsible budgeting means understanding the difference between an expense and an investment.

We should cut the fat from the government - not programs that strengthen our communities, support local businesses, improve quality of life, and generate an economic return for taxpayers.

Political advertisement paid for and approved by Bryon White for Volusia County Council, District 3.

Bryon White for Volusia County Council, District 3
Slow The Growth Volusia
VoteBryonWhite.com
FB: Bryon White for Volusia County Council

ECC OCT 2026.indd 13 9/29/26 1:09 PM









ECC OCT 2026.indd 14 9/29/26 1:09 PM

The Grille at Riverview

Waterfront Dining, Weekend Brunch and Celebrations Made Even Better by the View

For more than 20 years, the Grille at Riverview has been part of the rhythm of New Smyrna Beach. Right on the river, where dolphins play and boats drift past. It's the kind of place where sandals and sundresses feel just as right as cocktail dresses and ties. People come for happy hour, they come for weekend brunch, they come for the sunset. But more than anything, people come because being by the water has a way of slowing you down, making you stop and really appreciate the beauty of New Smyrna Beach.

While it sits right along Flagler Avenue, once you're on the property, it somehow feels like its own little escape. Head straight out to the deck and you're right on the water, or stay inside for the air conditioning on really hot days and still take in those beautiful river views. It works just as well for a casual afternoon as it does for something worth dressing up for.



Happy Hour | Monday - Friday | 4:00 - 6:00PM

Happy Hour at The Grille at Riverview has become one of my favorite ways to catch up with friends. Monday through Friday from 4 to 6 p.m., the specials run throughout the entire restaurant, so you can settle in by the water, order a few appetizers for the table and enjoy a drink while the sun starts to drop.

The drink specials include $4 wells, domestics and house wines, $5 imports, and $3 off premium liquors. And if margaritas are more your style, the $5 Hornitos margaritas, available in all flavors, are offered all day, every day. Add 25% off appetizers and flatbreads, and it becomes the perfect excuse to order a few things to share. The escargot is one of my husband's favorites, and I'm always happy to see the sliders and crispy tempura shrimp hit the table.



PLAN YOUR EVENT

01 KEY WEST DECK + NORTH DECK

For a true waterfront event, you can't beat the outdoor space. The Key West Deck accommodates up to 100 guests and includes its own private bar and entertainment area, while the neighboring North Deck offers additional open-air riverfront seating for groups of 30 to 80. Reserve these spaces together or separately.

02 PROMENADE ROOM

Upstairs, the Promenade Room accommodates up to 60 guests and combines privacy with some of the restaurant's signature river and sunset views. The separate setting makes it especially well suited for events that need their own space.

03 REEF BAR

An intimate lounge setting for up to 35 guests, perfect for cocktail receptions, meet-and-greets or a relaxed private gathering. With its own bar and doors that can be closed for added privacy, the space feels both comfortable and exclusive.

04 MANATEE ROOM

Located inside on the main floor, this space accommodates up to 45 guests and offers views of the river. It's a comfortable choice for smaller gatherings, showers, rehearsal dinners, family celebrations and more.



ECC OCT 2026.indd 15 9/29/26 1:09 PM

Serving New Smyrna Beach for Over 20 Years

Weekend Brunch | Saturday & Sunday | 10:30AM -3PM

If you haven't had brunch at The Grille at Riverview yet, it's absolutely worth adding to your weekend plans. Served every Saturday and Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., the brunch menu covers the classics and then some: Quiche of the day with fresh fruit and breakfast potatoes, avocado toast, traditional Eggs Benedict, omelets your way, filet mignon and eggs, and French toast.

I'm not really a big breakfast person, so I especially love that they also serve a Saturday and Sunday lunch menu during the same hours. That means I can still get French onion soup or a BLT with avocado. And of course, the best part might be the Mimosa Kit. For $19.95, they bring a chilled bottle of champagne to your table with fresh juices and fruit, so you can make each mimosa exactly how you like it. No waiting on refills, no "too much juice" moment, just a chilled bottle right there at the table. In my opinion, that's how brunch should be done.

The Perfect Venue for Your Next Event

With the holidays coming up, The Grille at Riverview is a beautiful spot for parties, gift exchanges and get-togethers. They go all out with the decorations, and the river makes the perfect backdrop for just about any event.

I'll be here on Oct. 24 for Authors on the River: A Literary Luncheon, and Pepper's Boutique returns Nov. 16 for another fashion show. Check their website for more upcoming events, or contact Peggy to plan your own. She'll help you choose the right space, menu and setup to make it exactly what you need.





Weekend Brunch is available every Saturday & Sunday from 10:30 am - 3 pm and include Mimosa Kits for only $19.95.





The Grille at Riverview | thegrilleatriverview.com
101 Flagler Avenue | New Smyrna Beach 32169
(386) 428-1865 | For Events Call Peggy (805) 490-0373

THE GRILLE AT RIVERVIEW

Monday - Thursday: 4:00 - 9:00pm | Friday: 4:00 - 10:00pm
Saturday: 10:30am - 10:00pm | Sunday: 10:30am - 9:00pm

FB/Insta/TikTok: @TheGrilleatRiverview



TIFFANY SUDAKIS | TIFFANY@ECCTOLDME.COM

Editor and co-owner of East Coast Current magazine. In 2014 she was recognized by Editor & Publisher Magazine as one of the "25 Under 35" innovators in the newspaper industry.

ECC OCT 2026.indd 16 9/29/26 1:09 PM





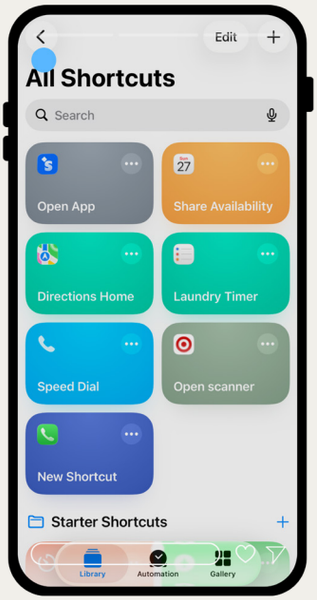


ECC OCT 2026.indd 17 9/29/26 1:09 PM

Worth Knowing

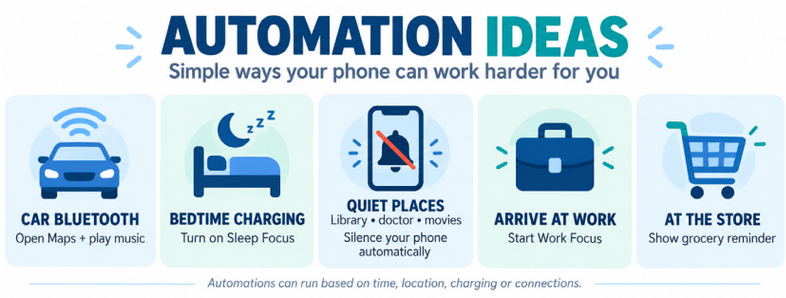
How to Make your Smartphone Work Harder





Your smartphone can be working a lot harder for you, even without the use of AI. With a few built-in tools and inexpensive NFC tags, it can react to where you are, what it connects to and even what you tap.

Automations can start timers, change settings, open apps or remind you about something at exactly the right place. Once configured in your phone's Shortcuts or Routines app, many of these actions happen automatically, turning everyday routines around the house, in the car and on the go into fewer steps each day.



TURN EVERYDAY OBJECTS INTO SHORTCUTS

A Near Field Communication (NFC) tag is a small sticker containing a chip your phone can recognize when held nearby. Pair one with an automation and an ordinary object can become a shortcut. Place a tag on the washer to start a laundry timer, beside the bed to activate a nighttime routine, at your desk to open work apps, or in the kitchen to pull up your grocery list.

LET YOUR PHONE REACT AUTOMATICALLY

Your phone can also respond to other things. Automations use a trigger to start an action when something happens. An iPhone Shortcut, for example, can run when the phone connects to Bluetooth, joins Wi-Fi, begins charging, reaches a certain battery level or arrives at a location. Samsung Galaxy phones offer similar options through Modes and Routines. Set the trigger once, and repetitive tasks can happen with little daily effort.

PUT REMINDERS IN THE RIGHT PLACE FOR THE RIGHT TIME

Time-based reminders are useful, but sometimes the place matters more than the clock. Location-based reminders can alert you when you arrive somewhere or leave a location. Instead of guessing when you might be near the store, set it to text your family for their shopping requests when you arrive there. On iPhone, Reminders and Shortcuts support location triggers; options on Android vary by device and app. They can turn easy-to-forget errands into useful, perfectly timed prompts.

START SIMPLE

Before buying NFC tags, check that your phone supports NFC and decide what you want each tag to do. Packs of 20 tags are available on Amazon for around $7. On iPhone, NFC can be used as a trigger inside Shortcuts automations on supported models. Samsung users can build routines through Modes and Routines, while options vary on other Android phones. The same NFC tag can be set to trigger different automations on different devices. Start with one simple task, test it several times, then add more tags once the routine feels useful and reliable.



ECC OCT 2026.indd 18 9/29/26 1:09 PM

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sports/Races/Activities | Arts/Performances | Music | Food & Drink | Community

RECURRING MONTHLY EVENTS

- **Downtown Nights** @ Beach St, Daytona
  Oct 2 / Nov 6
- **Art Walk** @ Beach St, Daytona
  Oct 2 / Nov 6
- **Art Walk** @ Granada, Ormond
  Oct 3 / Nov 7
- **Sip/Art and Stroll** @ Canal St, NSB
  Oct 3 / Nov 7
- **Night Market** @ Tanger Outlets
  Oct 7 / Dec 2 (no Nov market)
- **Girls Night Out** @ Riverside Pavilion, PO
  Oct 8 / Nov 12
- **Cars on Canal** @ Canal St, NSB
  Oct 10 / Nov 14
- **DeLand Cruise-In** @ Indiana Ave.
  Oct 17 / Nov 21
- **Night Market** @ Riverside Pavilion, PO
  Oct 21 / Nov 18
- **Wine Walk** @ Flagler Ave, NSB
  Oct 24 / Nov 28

3-31

Boo: 10 AM-3 PM; OCT 3-31
Beware: every FRI & SAT 6-10 PM

Brevard Zoo, Melbourne

Boo the Zoo & Beware the Night!

This year, Brevard Zoo is offering you two ways to Halloween at the Zoo! Join us for our beloved daytime trick-or-treating experience, Boo at the Zoo (inc. w/ regular admission). Then, when the sun goes down, you won't want to miss Beware the Night! See the Zoo transform into a spooky playground filled with eerie lights, mysterious sounds and hauntingly fun surprises. *separately ticketed events - **BrevardZoo.org**



3-25

SAT-SUN OCT 3-25
10 AM - 6 PM

3000 N Spring Garden Ave, DeLand

Harvest Fields Corn Maze & Hay Rides

Celebrate fall at Harvest Fields with a giant corn maze, pumpkin patch, hay fort, corn cannon, races, games, and more family-friendly farm fun. For a spookier adventure, Fields of Fright features a haunted hayride through 100 acres of eerie trails (7-11 PM).



10

SAT OCT 10
1 - 5 PM

Beach St., Downtown Daytona

Sip & Treat Wine Walk

Sip, stroll, and savor your way through the Sip & Treat Wine Walk. Enjoy red and white wine samples, sweet treats, live music, shopping, and exclusive specials from local businesses while spending a relaxing fall afternoon with friends.



17

SAT OCT 17
1 - 6 PM

Flagler Avenue, NSB

Chili Challenge/Craft Beer Tour

Sample different style of chili's from host locations along the avenue. Tasters can vote for their favorite chili and the winning host locations will receive the "Best at the Beach" awards. Get 20 tasting tickets, a tasting mug and a map with the host locations and their craft beer selections at EventBrite.com



18

SUN OCT 19
4 - 7 PM

Rockefeller Gardens, Ormond Beach

Taste of Ormond

Celebrate Ormond's bustling dining scene with small plates from more than two dozen local restaurants and food and drink purveyors. $100 per person.



20-24

OCT 20 - 24
TUE - SAT

throughout NSB

NSB Plein Air Paint Out

The 16th Annual NSB Paint Out is a multi-day art festival celebrating "en plein air" painting, bringing artists and art lovers to our community. The event features free demos, a Wet Gallery, Kids Paint Too!, and two exclusive events. All proceeds support arts education at the Artists' Workshop. Learn more online: **NSBPaintOut.com**



23

SAT OCT 23
5 - 9 PM

Beach St., Downtown Daytona

Oktoberfest

Oktoberfest in Downtown Daytona Beach is the place to be for a lively and festive atmosphere. Don't miss the adorable Weiner Dog Derby at the heart of the excitement. Join in the fun and celebrate German culture!



24

SAT OCT 24
4- 8 PM

ONE DAYTONA, Daytona Beach

Jeep Beach Trunk or Treat

Grab your costumes, bring your candy bags, and join us for Daytona's LARGEST Trunk or Treat, presented by Jeep Beach! A safe and exciting place to bring the entire family for trick-or-treat. Get dressed up and come see all the decked out Jeeps!



24

SAT OCT 24
4 - 8 PM

NSB Sports Complex

Fall Festival

Celebrate the season at the New Smyrna Beach Fall Festival with thrilling rides, a corn maze, costume contest, kids' games, food trucks, local vendors, and live music. Bring the whole family for an evening packed with festive fall fun and community spirit.



24

SAT OCT 24
5 - 9 PM

Southeast Volusia YMCA, Edgewater

Fall Festival & Trunk or Treat

The evening of EDGEFest's family friendly fun will include a trunk or treat, hay rides, petting zoo and pony rides, costume contests, haunted forest plus plenty of vendors, food trucks and music! Admission is one non-perishable food item donation per person.



24

SAT OCT 24
7 - 11 PM

Manatee Island, Daytona Beach

GHOULapalooza

This is Halloween reimagined: a night where 90s-2000s nostalgia collides with spine-tingling energy, and an island transforms into a ghostly gathering of music, mayhem, and memories. Costumes are encouraged. Spirits are expected. The dead will dance again! Tickets start @ $13 (early bird) at EventBrite.com



31

SAT OCT 31
5 - 8 PM

Ocean Walk Shoppes to Main St, Daytona Beach

Halloween Beachside Boo Bash

Celebrate Halloween at the first Beachside Boo Bash, bringing Daytona Beach's beachside businesses and community together for one big night of family fun. Trick-or-treat along the beachside, enjoy music and spooky surprises, then show off your best look in the Halloween Costume Contest.



31

SAT OCT 31
6 - 8 PM

Woodland Blvd., DeLand

Monsters on Mainstreet

Downtown trick or treating and activities for the whole family to enjoy!



31

SAT OCT 31
5 - 10 PM

Dewey O. Boster Park, Deltona

Halloween Spooktacular

Get ready for a night of scarezones, competition, haunted trails and so much more! Come ready to show off your costumes and don't miss the thrills at Deltona's Halloween Spooktacular! Be there or be scared!



7

SAT NOV 7
11 AM - 8 PM

Tanger Outlets, Daytona Beach

Daytona Food Fest & Craft Fair

The Daytona Food Fest & Craft Fair returns with $5-and-under eats from food trucks and restaurants, live music, unique crafts, and fun activities all weekend long! Shop vendors, sip festive drinks, and enjoy family fun, all while supporting local nonprofit Imagine Kindness. All ages welcome! Tix @ **daytonafoodfest.com**



ECC OCT 2026.indd 19 9/29/26 1:09 PM

15-18 **OCT 15 - 18**
THU - SUN
Throughout Volusia County
Biketoberfest

This annual Daytona Beach motorcycle rally draws 100,000+ visitors. Check Biketoberfest.org for schedule of events.



17 **SAT OCT 17**
11 AM - 3 PM
Jackie Robinson Ballpark, Daytona
Halloween Bash

Enjoy a family-friendly event filled with fun, creativity, and Halloween excitement! Trick-or-treat with local vendors, enjoy free activities, and grab a meal from our delicious food trucks. Come dressed up as a family and you might win a prize! Free admission and free parking.



24 **SAT OCT 24**
11:30 - 2:30 PM
The Grille at Riverview, NSB
Authors on the River: A Literary Luncheon

Enjoy an afternoon of books, conversation, and lunch at Authors on the River, featuring local authors Shelley Lynch, Lee Davis Jr., and Sean Donovan. Hear their stories, join a moderated Q&A, then meet the authors for book signings, photos, and conversation. Tickets: $35 per person, including lunch, beverage, tax and gratuity at SeeVolusia.com - Signature Events.
Turn to pg. 38 for more info.



24 **SAT OCT 24**
4 - 7:30 PM
Mill Lake Park, Orange City
Halloween BOO-lock Party

This FREE event provides the opportunity for families to come enjoy a FUN-filled night that includes Trick-or-Treating, Live DJ, Movie in the Park featuring Hotel Transylvania 3, Kid's activity zone, Costume Contests, Spooky Photo Ops & MUCH more...



30 **FRI OCT 30**
5 - 8 PM
Port Orange City Center
Halloween Fest

Compete to win prizes in a costume contest, collect candy from the trunk or treat community expo, have some fun in the kids zone, enjoy food from over 10 local vendors, participate in festive games.



30 **FRI OCT 30**
7 - 10 PM
Dewey O. Boster Park, Deltona
Egg Haunt and Movie Night

Get ready for a night of egg haunts and a movie showing of Hotel Transylvania! Come ready to find some eggs, show off your costumes and don't miss the scary movie afterwards! This event is free and open to the public.



7-8 **SAT - SUN, NOV 7 - 8**
9 AM - 5 PM; 10AM-4PM
Beach Street, Downtown Daytona
Halifax Art Festival

From ceramics and basket weaving to watercolors and oil paintings, the Halifax Art Festival, held each fall in early November, celebrates seasoned as well as emerging artists and craftsmen. Featuring more than 150 juried artisans from all over the country, it is the second oldest continual art festival in the state of Florida. Fine art booths will line Beach Street and craft art booths will be on Magnolia Avenue and Bay Street.

64th Annual
HALIFAX ART FESTIVAL



UPCOMING EVENTS SCHEDULE
FALL 2026



FRIDAY
OCT 16
5:30 – 8 PM

SPOOKY OOKY ESTUARY
Join MDC for a fun and creepy Halloween event, including a trick or treat trail, a super scary trail, crafts and games, and partner organizations giving out treats and getting in on the fun!





THURSDAY
DEC 3
6 – 9 PM

WILD & SCENIC FILM FESTIVAL
Join us under the stars for an unforgettable evening celebrating nature, adventure, and activism with the Wild & Scenic Film Festival, a powerful selection of short films that highlight the environment and those working to protect it!

Marine Discovery CENTER

Learn more

MarineDiscoveryCenter.org/events
520 Barracuda Blvd · 386.428.4828

ECC OCT 2026.indd 20 9/29/26 1:10 PM



ECC OCT 2026.indd 21 9/29/26 1:10 PM



Skinny *Dipping*

Skinny Jeans and Platform Heels Are Back for Fall

After years of wide-leg and baggy denim taking over, skinny jeans are making their way back for fall. This time, it's all about styling them clean, sexy and a little more grown-up.

Okay, I know what you're thinking. Didn't we JUST get rid of our skinny jeans? Well, go dig them back out.

The part I'm most excited about? Platforms are back, too.

As a short girl who LOVES a platform heel, I'm here for it. Give me an extra 5 inches, and suddenly my legs look longer, my outfit looks better and life just looks different from up here.

Pair your skinnies with a fitted top, blazer and chunky platforms, and you're done.

Before you throw out everything TikTok told you was "out," remember: fashion has commitment issues.

GET THE LOOK
Blazer: Reiss | @reiss
Bodysuit: SKIMS | @skims
Skinny Jeans: Gap | @gap
Handbag: DeMellier | @demellierlondon
Earrings: Karine Sultan | @karinesultanjewelry
Cuffs: Julie Vos | @julievos
Necklace: Estella Bartlett | @estellabartlett
Platform Heels: Kandee | @kandeeshoesofficial

CREATIVE DIRECTION / PHOTOGRAPHY / STYLING
Danielle Napolitano | @daniellenapolitano

MODEL
Scarlett Napolitano | @scarlettnapolitano



DANIELLE NAPOLITANO | @daniellenapolitano

A Miami Beach-based hairstylist, fashion stylist, and product developer at ALFA MFG. Known for her creativity and trend expertise, she brings a unique blend of artistry and innovation to the fashion and beauty industry. Contact: Danielle@Alfamfg.com

ECC OCT 2026.indd 22 9/29/26 1:10 PM







You can purchase Rise Yaupon products inside Wildflour Market, grab an iced or hot tea made for you there, or pick up your favorite blend to take home.

Bobby G *Spills the Tea*

Steeped in Community: How Rise Yaupon Is Growing Something Bigger

I'm not really a tea guy. So when we got to Rise Yaupon in Edgewater and Shelly Steele handed me a cup, I wasn't sure what I was going to think. I took a sip, and the first thing I noticed was what wasn't there: no bitter finish. I took another sip just to make sure. Yep, still good. I asked Shelly about it, and that pretty much started the tour.

Yaupon, pronounced "YO-pon," is the only caffeinated plant native to North America. Shelly explained that it doesn't have the tannins that give traditional tea that bitter finish. You can actually leave the bag in your cup, keep adding hot water and get several servings out of it. I had no idea.

My wife, my in-laws Craig and Gwen, Kelsey and I headed outside with Shelly, where she showed us yaupon growing right on the property. That was probably the first thing that really surprised me. This isn't some exotic plant they're having shipped in from the other side of the world. It grows wild right here and has been used for thousands of years.

Shelly showed us how to identify it, the differences between male and female plants, the berries, different varieties and how wild bees help pollinate it. Some yaupon can grow 25 to 30 feet tall. Once she pointed it out, I started realizing how much of it I've probably seen without ever knowing what it was. So now I'm looking at landscaping differently, spotting it everywhere I go. "Yep, that's yaupon." I've had about a 15-minute education at this point, so obviously I'm an expert.

From there, we went inside to see what happens after it's harvested. Rise works with local harvesters from around the area who bring in freshly picked leaves. They're weighed, washed, sanitized, dried and sorted before being processed. And this is where you start realizing Rise really is a family operation.

Shelly's dad, Mark, has helped create and modify some of the equipment they use, including a system for separating the leaves from sticks and berries. Basically, they had a job that was a pain in the butt to do by hand, so Dad figured out a better way. That's usually how the best inventions happen.

Shelly's mom isn't sitting on the sidelines either. She was right there in the work area with everyone else, helping with the tea, bagging and packaging. Dad's building things. Mom's working alongside the crew. Shelly's running the business. Apparently nobody in this family got the memo about taking it easy.

ECC OCT 2026.indd 23 9/29/26 1:10 PM

But the more we walked through Rise, the more interesting the story became. Part of what Shelly has built is a way for people to earn money harvesting yaupon, including people who may need a second chance. Her expectations are pretty simple: be clean and sober, have permission to harvest where you're harvesting, bring in good leaves and do things the right way. She isn't overly concerned with what somebody did years ago. I liked that. Everybody talks about second chances. It's cool to see somebody actually giving them.

Rise also creates jobs for people with special needs, seniors and others who may have had trouble finding the right work environment. We met Alexis, and I asked her what she liked about working there. Her answer was pretty simple: the people. She talked about everyone being nice, positive and enjoying working together. After being there for a while, you could see exactly what she meant.

Everyone seemed comfortable. Everybody had something to do. People helped each other out, and Shelly's mom was right there among them. Nobody looked like they were counting the minutes until they could leave. That's usually a pretty good sign.

We kept moving through production into the blending room, where everything is measured by weight and mixed in small batches. Their bestseller is Healthy Kick, made with yaupon, cinnamon, ginger, rose hips, rose petals and hibiscus. I tried that one, too. Again, I'm not a big tea person, but I liked it. At this point, my whole "I'm not a tea guy" argument was starting to fall apart.

Then we watched the machine that fills the tea bags do its thing, measuring and filling each bag before they're counted and packaged. And again, there was Mom, right there working with everybody else. We'd gone from looking at a plant growing outside to seeing the finished product ready to ship. For somebody who knew almost nothing about yaupon when I walked in, I thought the whole process was pretty darn cool.

Then we moved over to the Wildflour, located in the same building. Run by Jamie Sue Ombey, Wildflour Market is part florist, part cafe, part sandwich shop and part gathering place, all sharing the space with Rise Yaupon. What I liked about this part of the story was how the two businesses fit together.

They're both locally owned and women-led, and Shelly talked about the importance of women-owned businesses supporting other women-owned businesses. Here, they're actually doing it. Rise has its thing. Wildflour has its thing. But instead of everybody staying in their own lane, they work together. You can come in for flowers and discover yaupon. Come in for tea and stay for lunch. It's a pretty good setup, especially the lunch part.

Wildflour is also expanding the community side of things. Local musician Jeff White is involved, they've built an outdoor stage and they're planning smaller live music events as the weather gets cooler. Jeff was



also making our sandwiches while we were there. One minute we're talking about music. Next thing I know, Jeff's behind the counter making lunch. Apparently "musician" is a pretty loose job description at Wildflour. The sandwiches were really good, so I'm not questioning the system.

There was another part of the afternoon that didn't really have anything to do with tea, flowers, music or sandwiches, but it meant a lot to me. I got to spend it with my family. Having Craig and Gwen there was great. I don't take for granted getting that kind of time with them, and having my wife there made it even better.

Our schedules don't always click at the same time. Life gets busy. So when we get the chance to go do something together, learn something new and just hang out for a while, I appreciate it. It wasn't anything complicated. It was just a really good afternoon with people I care about.

Before we left, I took a group picture with the staff. By then, we'd met a lot of the people, seen what they did and heard a little bit about their stories. It was a nice way to wrap up the visit, and it pretty much sums up what I took away from Rise and Wildflour.

There's a lot going on in that building. They're taking a plant that grows naturally right here in Florida and turning it into a local product. They're paying local people to harvest it, giving people second chances and creating opportunities for people with special needs. You've got women-owned businesses supporting other women-owned businesses.

I went there to learn about yaupon tea, and I definitely did that. But I ended up learning a lot more about the people behind it, and I got to share the whole experience with my own family. That's a pretty good afternoon in my book.

And yes, Shelly got me to drink the whole cup. Not bad for a guy who's not really a tea guy.

Although at this point, I'm running out of evidence to support that claim.

Bobby G, Out.



SCOTTY SUDAKIS
AKA BOBBY G

Freelance writer and frontman in 5 Time Shag. If you have something you would like to see Bobby G cover in a future article please email the editor directly at: Tiffany@ECCtoldme.com

Photos by Kelsey Walters

Rise Yaupon
Parktowne Industrial Park
504 Pullman Rd, Edgewater 32132
(386) 222-2795 | RiseYaupon.com
Mon-Fri: 9:00am-2:30pm
Sat & Sun: Closed

Factory Tours | Walk-ins Welcome
Call Ahead is Appreciated
Tours are Free
Tues & Thurs 9:00am-1:00pm

WildFlour Market
Parktowne Industrial Park
504 Pullman Rd, Edgewater 32132
(386) 478-6047

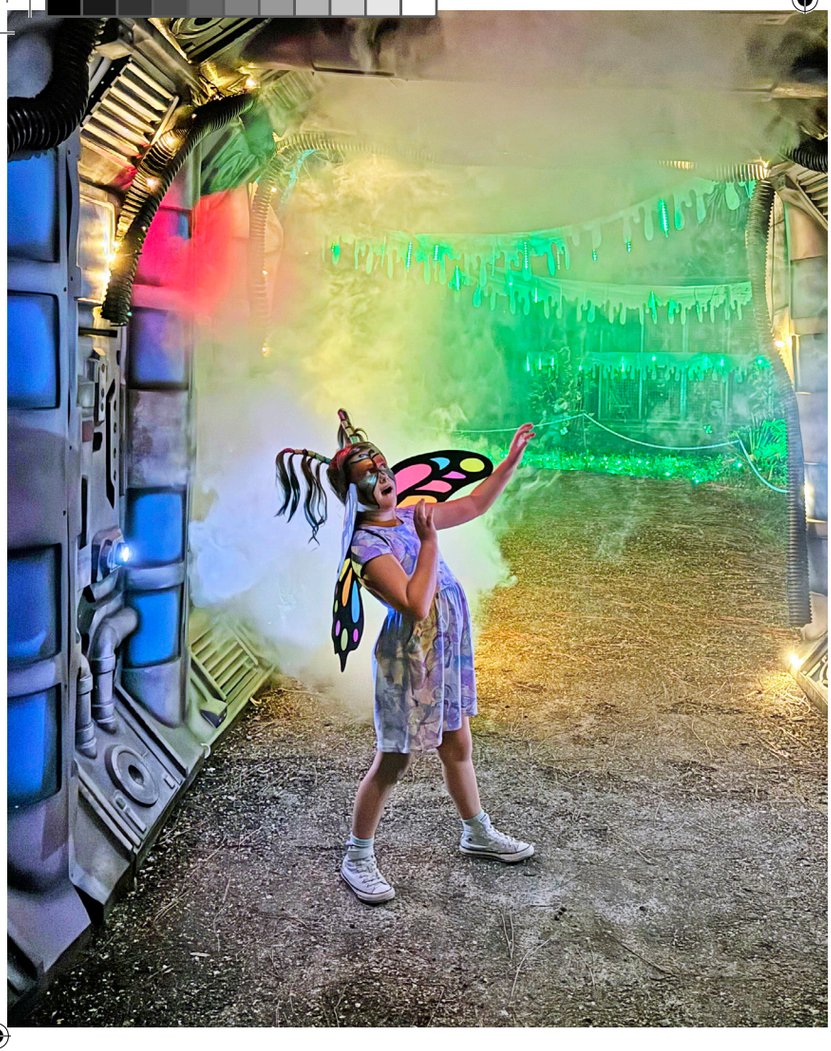
Monday: 9:00am-2:30pm
Tues-Fri: 8:30am-2:30pm
Sat & Sun: Closed



ECC OCT 2026.indd 24 9/29/26 1:10 PM

Florida *or Bust*

From Boo to Beware: Two Ways to Celebrate Halloween at Brevard Zoo





Guests are encouraged to come dressed in costume and become part of the Halloween fun, whether you're visiting for daytime trick-or-treating or after dark for a few extra frights. The themed pathways, glowing displays, and festive photo spots make it easy to get into the spirit from the moment you arrive.

This October, Brevard Zoo is giving families two very different ways to celebrate Halloween. The longtime favorite Boo at the Zoo is back for another season of daytime trick-or-treating, while the all-new Beware the Night turns the familiar zoo pathways into something much spookier after dark.

Boo at the Zoo returns every Saturday and Sunday in October from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., bringing with it all the family-friendly fun that has made it a tradition. Kids can trick-or-treat at themed stations, visit the animals, enjoy special activities and performances, and stop for plenty of photos among the Halloween decorations. Activities are included with regular zoo admission, and guests are encouraged to bring a reusable trick-or-treat bag.

But this year, Avery is inching closer to those tween years and has started craving something a little scarier than cutesy Halloween fun. That made the new after-dark experience, Beware the Night, right up her alley.

This separately ticketed evening event runs Saturday and Sundays through October 31 from 7 to 10 p.m. and offers exactly what we were looking for: a spooky atmosphere without launching straight into full haunted-house terror.

Once the sun goes down, the zoo feels completely different. We followed the Africa and Wild Florida trails through dimly lit paths, fog, glowing jack-o-lanterns carved into our favorite animals, eerie sounds and oversized Halloween displays. Since this happens after normal zoo hours, it is important to know that this is not a nighttime version of a regular zoo visit.

Most of the animals are tucked away. We did hear the lions roaring while they settled in for the night and spotted the rhinos sleeping below an overlook, which made walking the trails after hours feel even cooler. The focus here, though, is the spooky atmosphere.

We tested our knowledge with animal skeleton trivia and wandered through themed areas featuring everything from a zombie attack and alien invasion to a colorful Día de los Muertos scene. We even stopped to watch a witch busily concocting potions over her cauldron. There were a few little scares along the way, but nothing suddenly came flying out onto the trail after us, which made the main experience a good middle ground for kids who want to feel brave without spending the entire night hiding behind a parent.

ECC OCT 2026.indd 25 9/29/26 1:10 PM

Then came Avery's favorite part of the night: the haunted train ride.

The special "closing time" ride casts you as the final zoo worker of the evening, tasked with heading into the woods even after being warned that you should never close up alone. I will not spoil what happens next, but it was just enough to satisfy her growing appetite for jump scares. The ultimate review came when we got off and she immediately insisted we ride again. And again. Three rides later, I think we got our money's worth.



For those ready to turn the scare factor up another notch, Friday and Saturday tickets in October also include access to River's Revenge, an optional behind-the-scenes trail featuring darker environments, creatures, mazes and jump scares. This one is intended for older and braver guests (10 and up is advised), so check the zoo's recommendations before deciding whether your crew is ready.

Of course, Halloween requires snacks. Beware the Night has its own themed menu, including cricket-topped mac and cheese (if you dare!), enormous turkey legs and specialty cocktails. Scott and I sampled a Witch's Brew and a "Blood Bag," while Avery feasted on a turkey leg that was bigger than her head.

If you want to make an entire day of it, Boo at the Zoo and Beware the Night can easily become a Halloween double feature. Explore the zoo and trick-or-treat during the day, grab dinner nearby when the zoo closes, then return after dark to see the place completely transformed.

Whether your family prefers candy and costumes, foggy forests and a few frights, or is finally ready to graduate to bigger scares, Brevard Zoo has managed to make Halloween feel like a choose-your-own-adventure this year.

BREVARD ZOO | (321) 254-9453 | BrevardZoo.org
8225 North Wickham Rd Melbourne

Boo at the Zoo | Sat & Sun 10 AM - 3 PM, Oct 3-31 (incl. in regular admission)

Beware the Night | Thu - Sun 7 - 10 PM; Oct 1-25, open all week Oct 26-31 | $43/person



The Walters Family

The Walters Family loves adventure and exploring Florida together. Kelsey Walters, CFO and co-owner of East Coast Current, is a professional photojournalist specializing in travel and documentary photography. Her husband, Scott, originally from Connecticut, has lived in Florida since age 11. Their 8-year-old daughter, Avery, enjoys joining their monthly adventures and playing with the family's dogs, Kodi, Bluey, and BamBam.

Photos by Kelsey Walters









ECC OCT 2026.indd 26 9/29/26 1:10 PM





Housing Answers

Buying, Owning, or Planning Ahead? Get Answers in One Place.

Homeownership can come with a lot of questions. Whether you are preparing to purchase your first home, planning a future move, or trying to better understand the responsibilities of owning a home, having access to reliable information can make the process feel far more manageable.

The New Smyrna Beach Board of REALTORS® invites the community to attend the Southeast Volusia Homeownership Expo & Forum on **Saturday, October 10, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** at The Gray Room, located at 320 Canal Street in New Smyrna Beach.

The event is free and open to the public, and free food will be available. Attendees will have an opportunity to connect directly with local experts, ask questions, learn about available resources, and gain a better understanding of today's real estate market.

The Expo is designed for anyone interested in learning more about homeownership. You do not need to be actively buying or selling a home to attend. Current homeowners, future buyers, and residents who simply want to become more informed are all welcome.

Homeownership is about more than completing a transaction. It can play an important role in building financial stability, strengthening neighborhoods, and supporting the long-term health of our community. REALTORS® throughout Southeast Volusia work every day to help residents navigate these decisions and connect with trusted local resources.

Join us on October 10 for a free community event featuring helpful information, local resources, conversations with experts, and free food. Bring your questions and take the next step toward making informed homeownership decisions.

Find a local expert powered by the New Smyrna Beach Board of REALTORS®.



Need a trusted local Realtor?
Scan to access our membership directory.

NEW SMYRNA BEACH BOARD OF REALTORS®

Serving Southeast Volusia since 1925 with the mission of PRIDE in Profession and Commitment to Community. Support local expertise — visit our website to connect with one of our Realtor® members.
NewSmyrnaBeachRealtors.com | 386-428-2104
725 W. Canal Street | New Smyrna Beach 32168

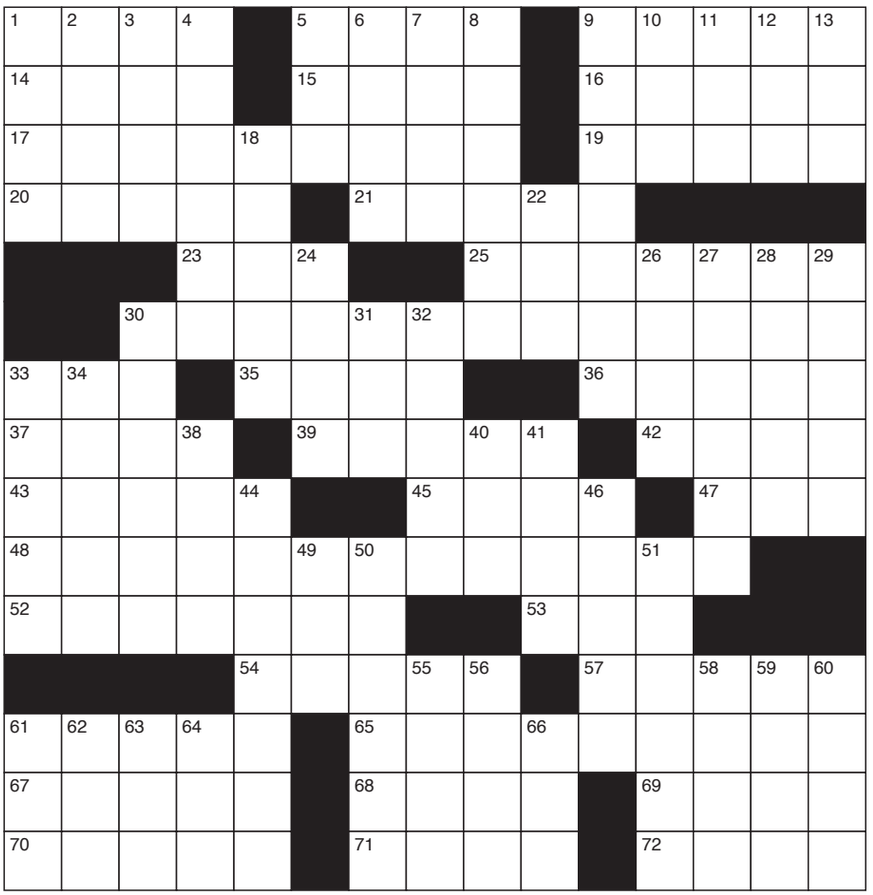
ECC OCT 2026.indd 27 9/29/26 1:10 PM

ONLY
$299
per month

Get Seen.
Get Customers.
Your ad belongs here!
Email sales@ecctoldme.com to get started!

Across

1. Fashionable Christian
5. Injure
9. Tara's Scarlett
14. Eight, in Ecuador
15. Samoan city
16. Bug
17. North Indian peak
19. Television awards
20. Walk without grace
21. Give pause to
23. Battery type
25. Refers
30. Trivial
33. Sock-in-the-gut reaction
35. Emulate Buffy
36. Get away
37. Activity with bubbles
39. English Channel feeder
42. In a different way
43. One of the three Musketeers
45. South American rodent
47. NFL stats
48. Assembly buildings
52. Took territory
53. Tax-form ID
54. Archaic term for two
57. Keep one's ___ the ground
61. Supersized
65. Winner of the 1922 Nobel Prize in Physics
67. "The Raven" writer, in footnotes
68. Like a bug in a rug
69. Salacious stare
70. Back (a horse)
71. Kit ____ (Hershey bars)
72. Holiday lead-ins



Down

1. Therefore, to Jean-Luc
2. Suffix with poet
3. "Don't tell me!"
4. Basketballer nicknamed "Dennis the Menace"
5. Conned
6. Modeled oneself on
7. Tear to pieces
8. Fruity rum drink
9. Rest on top of
10. Gender-specific pronoun
11. Pitcher's asset
12. ___ Lopez (chess opening)
13. Pompous fool
18. Make ___ at (get fresh)
22. 2003 Will Ferrell film
24. Has a cold
26. Pac Ten school
27. Frightens
28. Came to a close
29. Worries
30. Conditional kind of statement
31. Fed. auditing agcy.
32. Maidens of myths
33. McCain beater
34. Grainy, in a way
38. Table d'____ (restaurant offering)
40. Famed Chairman
41. Old French coins
44. Twenty minus four
46. Horse relatives
49. Mint
50. Polish seaport
51. Authorize
55. "You and ____ little toy shop" (line in the English version of "99 Luftballons")
56. Unaligned: Abbr.
58. Wade lead-in, in law
59. Biblical pronoun
60. Hockey's Bobby and others
61. Med. country
62. "Storage Wars" network, briefly
63. Sch. paper
64. Slimy stuff
66. Some HDTVs

SEPTEMBER 2026 ANSWERS



Find the answers to this crossword puzzle in next month's issue.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

ECC OCT 2026.indd 28 9/29/26 1:10 PM

West Volusia

A Travel Guide to Fall Festivals and Events in West Volusia

Fall brings a welcome shift to West Volusia as summer humidity gives way to cooler breezes and community celebrations. From music and fine art to outdoor adventures and historic traditions, autumn offers plenty of ways to experience the region's Old Florida character.

Active travelers can tackle the DeLeon Dash 5K on October 17, followed by the Central Florida Legends Marathon, Half Marathon, and 5K at Gemini Springs Park on November 14 and the Save the Manatee 5K at Blue Spring State Park the next morning. From November 19-21, the Emil & Dale Reutimann Memorial brings three nights of dirt-track racing to Volusia Speedway Park.

On November 7 and 8, Barberville Pioneer Settlement hosts its 50th Annual Fall Country Jamboree, transforming 30 shaded acres into a celebration of pioneer life with folk music, traditional artisans, demonstrations, and Cracker-style fare. On November 7, Autumn in the Oaks Festival brings artisan crafts, entertainment, and small-town charm to DeLeon Springs.

Downtown DeLand welcomes the Fall Festival of the Arts November 21-22, filling its historic streets with juried artwork from national and regional artists. Holiday traditions follow with the Stetson Mansion Christmas Spectacular, November 1 through January 17, and the West Volusia Historical Society Tour of Historic Homes, December 12-13.

There's even more happening throughout the season:

- Oct. 10-11: Schley's Bonsai Annual Fall Festival
- Oct. 24-Nov. 1: Cassadaga Fall Fest
- Nov. 5-15: Volusia County Fair
- Nov. 7: DeLand Original Music Festival
- Nov. 14: Veterans Day Parade
- Nov. 14: Holiday Pet & Craft Event
- Nov. 14: Celtic Fest and Highland Games
- Nov. 20: Volusia County Farm Tour
- Nov. 21: First Responders Gobble Gallop 5K
- Nov. 21: Holiday Pops Symphony
- Nov. 22: St. Johns Bass Fishing Tournament

Whether you're browsing art beneath historic storefronts, exploring Florida heritage, racing through a state park, or enjoying live music under the oaks, fall offers countless reasons to explore West Volusia.

Ready to hit the trails? For more information, visit the West Volusia Visitor Center at 116 W. New York Avenue in DeLand.
(386) 734-0162 | VisitWestVolusia.com


Barberville Pioneer Settlement


Volusia Speedway Park


Stetson Mansion

ECC OCT 2026.indd 29 9/29/26 1:10 PM

AF
Angiemar Flores

Protect What Matters Most

Protecting What Matters Most

Insurance & Financial Services

- Life Insurance
- Term Life with Living Benefits
- Health Insurance
- Final Expense
- Medicare Enrollments
- Notary Services
- Annuities



FREE Policy Review
Already have coverage? Let us review your existing policies at no cost and help you understand your options.

Are you ready for retirement and don't know what to do with your 401k?

Call today for a FREE consultation.

(386) 282-1635

www.afinsuranceagent.com

Licensed Insurance Agent • Florida License G-286771

3RD ANNUAL:

DAYTONA FOOD FEST & CRAFT FAIR

NOVEMBER 7TH, 2026

11AM-8PM

TANGER OUTLETS

DAYTONAFOODFEST.COM

BATTLE BROS EVENTS

Imagine Kindness

ALL FOOD $5 OR LESS!





SINCE 1956

Jersey Mike's SUBS

We Are NOW HIRING



1319 Saxon Drive • New Smyrna Beach • (386) 444-3102

ECC OCT 2026.indd 30 9/29/26 1:10 PM

Volusia County

LOCAL LISTINGS

Eat. Drink. Shop. Play. Stay. Relax. Health. Connect.

CONNECT



BEEFLY BARTENDING

PROFESSIONAL BARTENDING SERVICES

Serving All of Volusia County

- Weddings
- Private Parties
- Corporate Events
- Celebrations

BEE FLY BARTENDING

386-314-6090 | 386-689-7758



BACKYARD POOL & SPA REPAIR

BOOKING NEW CONSTRUCTION
CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

Servicing Volusia County, Palm Coast, Flagler Beach & Deland

(386) 402-6742
BackYardPoolAndSpaLLC.com



CUBB-COOLING & HEATING

INSTALLS, REPAIRS, DUCTWORK & REFRIGERATION
FAMILY OWNED | LICENSED & INSURED
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

Serving Volusia County

(386) 886-9175
(386) 320-2941
CubbCooling.com

NO AFTER-HOUR CHARGES EVER!



Recharge and relax with salt therapy, infrared sauna and massage—relieve inflammation & stress, detox, breathe easier and improve skin.

ASK ABOUT OUR 2-FOR-1 SPECIAL!

Private Salt Room Rentals!
3624 S Atlantic Ave, Ste 102
Daytona Beach Shores 32118
(386) 523-6258
@revivesaltlounge

CONNECT



THE LITTLE THEATRE 2026 SEASON

BRINGING MUSIC, LAUGHS AND DRAMA TO NEW SMYRNA BEACH SINCE 1947!

Experience the magic of live theatre!

Box Office open: Th. & Fri. 1- 4 p.m. and 2 hours before every show

(386) 423-1246
NSBPlayers.org

FULL SCHEDULE HERE



ORANGE COUNTY REGIONAL HISTORY CENTER

DIVE INTO OUR AREA'S HISTORY PLUS SURROUNDING CENTRAL FLORIDA IN DOWNTOWN ORLANDO!

Open MON - SAT: 10 AM - 5 PM
SUN: 12 - 5 PM

Find this month's full schedule of educational events here!

TheHistoryCenter.org



PONCE INLET COMMUNITY CENTER

BOOKING WEDDINGS, RECEPTIONS, SHOWERS, QUINCEAÑERAS, PARTIES AND CELEBRATIONS OF LIFE

Located in the heart of Ponce Inlet

- ✓ Commercial Kitchen
- ✓ Robust AV System
- ✓ Host up to 120 people

4670 S Peninsula Drive,
Ponce Inlet 32127
(386) 281-0589
PICommunityCenter.com



POOLS BY BRADLEY

CUSTOM DESIGNED SWIMMING POOLS & SPAS
VOTED BEST POOL COMPANY 7 YEARS IN A ROW

151 Wildwood Drive
NSB 32168

(386) 410-7946
PoolsByBradley.com

EAT



A.M. CAFE | 2 LOCATIONS

SERVING BREAKFAST AND LUNCH DAILY | 6 AM- 2 PM

New Smyrna Beach
1966 State Road 44
(386) 444-6562

Edgewater
1401 S Ridgewood Ave
(386) 402-4015



723 East 3rd. Ave.,
New Smyrna Beach, FL

(386) 287-5588

coltspigstand.com

NEW MENU!



DUTCH OVEN BREAD CO.

SOURDOUGH BAKERY SPECIALIZING IN ARTISAN BREADS AND SPECIALTY DESSERTS

FIND US ON CANAL ST!

120 Canal Street, New Smyrna Beach
Wednesday - Saturday
Open 9 AM - 3:30 PM or sold out!

(386) 689-9001
DutchOvenBreads.com



PEANUTS RESTAURANT AND SPORTS BAR

PUB GRUB, BREWS, POOL TABLES & LIVE MUSIC IN A SPORTS-FAN HANGOUT

421 Flagler Avenue
NSB 32169

(386) 423-1469
PeanutsBarNSB.com

ECC OCT 2026.indd 31 9/29/26 1:10 PM

EAT



RIVERPARK TERRACE

BRUNCH • DINNER • BAR • CATERING
HAPPY HOUR MON-FRI: 4-6 PM

MODERN AMERICAN FARE WITH A FOCUS ON LOCALLY SOURCED INGREDIENTS

302 S. Riverside Drive | NSB 32168
(386) 427-2903

RiverparkTerrace.com
@RiverparkTerraceFL



THE SAND WITCH TRUCK

There's a NEW Witch in town - find us stationed between Marianne Clancy Park and 3rd Ave Beach Access in NSB!
*dependent on tide and sand conditions

Serving up fresh sandwiches, gelato, coffee, teas, and more — right on the beach!

The **ONLY** roving food truck on the beach!

Find us on the beach in NSB!
(386) 689-2887

@thesandwitchtruck



THE ICE QUEEN TRUCK

The Ice Queen is a crowd-pleasing addition to any party, special occasion and corporate event.

Scan to book a visit from the Ice Queen Truck!

Reach out for more info!
(386) 689-2887
TheIceQueenTruck@gmail.com

@theicequeentrucknsb
TheIceQueenTruck.com



EDGEWATER'S NEWEST HIDDEN GEM!

Serving homemade local bites & specialty tea concoctions

504 Pullman Road, Edgewater
Mon-Fri @ 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM
FB @wildflourmarket
@wildflourmarket386

ORDER ONLINE AT WILDFLOURMARKET.COM

PLAY



BEACH RENTALS & REFRESHMENTS OF VOLUSIA COUNTY

SERVING ALL VOLUSIA COUNTY BEACH-GOERS
FIND ALL OUR LOCATIONS ONLINE

- Umbrella / Table / Chair Rentals
- Surf / Paddle / Boogie Board Rentals
- Food & Ice Cream Trucks
- E-bikes / Beach Cruisers
- Golf Carts & more...

(386) 518-3165
BeachRentalsVC.com



JEEP BEACH 2027

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE LARGEST JEEP-ONLY CHARITY EVENT - APRIL 16-25

Over $4 million donated to local charities through our events.

Interested in getting involved? Visit us online for more info.



SOCIAL CRUISES ✦ PRIVATE CHARTERS ✦ SPECIAL EVENTS

THE ULTIMATE PARTY BOAT CHARTER IN NEW SMYRNA BEACH, EDGEWATER, & PONCE INLET

386-227-7928
TOONTIKICHARTERS.COM

TIKI RIDE



SALTY RENTALS

SALES, SERVICE AND RENTALS
GOLF CARTS | BEACH BIKES | E-BIKES

301 Buenos Aires St
#2 NSB 32169

1101 N Dixie Fwy
NSB 32168

(386) 410-5558
SaltyRentalsNSB.com

MENTION AD FOR **$5 OFF!**

BEAUTY



ANGIE'S SERENITY DAY SPA

MANI/PEDI | MASSAGE | FACIALS | MAKEUP
WAXING | EYEBROW & EYELASH TREATMENTS

We've merged our locations!

Scan to read more about Angie's services & locations.

Find all of our services at our Edgewater Location!
101 S. Ridgewood Ave.
(386) 410-6131

AngiesNSB.com



NEW WAY HERBS

FINEST NATURAL TINCTURES & HIGHEST-QUALITY HOMEOPATHIC BLENDS

800-320-0270

NewWayHerbs.com
Through Old Ideas...Find a New Way

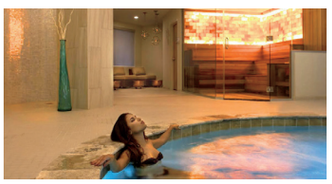


SAGE CHIROPRACTIC & VITALITY CENTER

DR. KELSEY L. PILATI-WILLIS
BOARD CERTIFIED CHIROPRACTIC NEUROLOGIST

400 S Atlantic Avenue
Suite #114
Ormond Beach 32176

(386) 301-4393
SageChiroOB.com



THE SPA AT VENETIAN BAY

A WORLD CLASS DAY SPA, OFFERING MASSAGES, FACIALS, MANICURES, PEDICURES & BODY TREATMENTS

424 Luna Bella Lane
Suite 125
NSB 32168

(386) 410-2142
TheSpaAtVenetianBay.com

REAL ESTATE



ANN TITUS REAL ESTATE & BUSINESS BROKERAGE

OWNER / BROKER: STEFANIE SANTIAGO
SETTING A #NEWSTANDARD IN THE REAL ESTATE INDUSTRY

(386) 222-9710
399 Canal Street
Suite 2 | NSB 32168

AnnTitusRE.com
Stefanie@AnnTitusre.com



MIMI MCKEE
REALTOR - OCEAN PROPERTIES

"LOVING LIVING AT THE BEACH"

Serving All of Volusia County

(386) 576-7722
NSBmimi.com
@NSBmimi



Sun&Sold Group

REACH OUT FOR BUYERS INCENTIVES -
UP TO $2500 TOWARD CLOSING COSTS!

(386) 243-9377
243 E. Granada Blvd.
Ormond Beach, FL 32176

SunandSoldHomes.com
info@SunandSoldHomes.com

GAIN EXPOSURE FOR YOUR BUSINESS IN OUR LOCAL LISTING GUIDE. CONTACT OUR SALES DEPARTMENT TODAY!
SALES@ECCTOLDME.COM

ECC OCT 2026.indd 32 9/29/26 1:10 PM



Abandoned and derelict vessels can threaten navigation, damage property and harm marine habitats. Local authorities and the FWC investigate reported vessels and may remove them when owners fail to take action. Boat owners who can no longer maintain a vessel may also qualify for free disposal through FWC's Vessel Turn-In Program.

The Boat Coach

Derelict Boats on Volusia County's Waterways

Abandoned boats along the Intracoastal Waterway and beaches of Volusia County are not only a blight on the natural environment, but they also often pose threats to safe navigation and endanger marine life and habitat. In addition, abandoned or derelict vessels can cause serious damage to docks and property as they drift on or beneath the water's surface.

Local authorities and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) actively track, remove and prosecute owners of derelict vessels across Volusia County's waterways.

The FWC classifies abandoned vessels in three categories: public nuisance vessel, at-risk vessel and derelict vessel.

Public Nuisance Vessels: The FWC declares a vessel a public nuisance and may remove it as if it were derelict when the owner has been cited three times within a 24-month period for at-risk conditions, without acquittal or dismissal.

At-Risk Vessels: FWC or other law enforcement officers may determine a vessel is at risk of becoming derelict if it is taking on water, has broken loose or is in danger of breaking loose from its anchor, is listing due to water intrusion or does not have an effective means of propulsion for safe navigation.

Derelict Vessels: The FWC defines a derelict vessel as one that is wrecked, junked or in substantially dismantled condition upon any waters of this state.

Reporting and Removal: Anyone can report abandoned or derelict boats by calling the FWC Wildlife Alert Hotline at (888) 404-3922 or the Volusia County Environmental Management Division at (386) 736-5927.

The FWC or local marine units will investigate and post a 21-calendar-day notice. If the owner fails to comply or cannot be found, authorization may be issued to remove and dispose of the vessel.

Intentionally abandoning a vessel in Florida is a first-degree misdemeanor carrying fines, while repeat offenders can face third-degree felony charges.

Boat owners who receive a derelict, at-risk or public nuisance warning and can no longer care for their vessel can surrender it for free disposal through FWC's Vessel Turn-In Program.

Want to know if you can legally claim an abandoned boat? Scan the QR code to learn more about Florida's ownership and salvage laws.

For local towing, recovery or salvage assistance, Sea Tow Daytona / Ponce / New Smyrna serves the area.



CAPTAIN MARK KELLUM
THE BOAT COACH
MARKTHEBOATCOACH@GMAIL.COM
MARKTHEBOATCOACH.COM

Born with the water gene, Captain Mark found his passions early: swimming, surfing and sailing. A naval electronics engineer and U.S. Coast Guard Master Mariner, he's spent 30 years helping others improve their boating experiences in NSB.

ECC OCT 2026.indd 33 9/29/26 1:10 PM

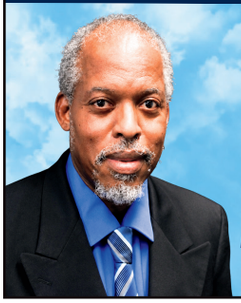
ELECT

SAMMY JACKSON

THE REAL DEAL State Representative For District 28

FOR THE PEOPLE

VOTE TUES, NOVEMBER 3RD



MY MISSION:

Protect Voting Rights
Provide Quality Education
Healthcare For EVERY CHILD
Build Better Roads and Transit

Paid for and approved by Sammy Jackson, Democrat, for State Representative, District 28

Ocean Properties & Management, Inc.

VIEW THE PROPERTY

$359,000



BEACHSIDE LIFESTYLE WITH ROOM FOR REAL LIFE

43 CEDAR DUNES DR, NSB 32169

3 Beds + Flex | 2.5 Baths | 1,736 living sf

Indoor Space: First-floor bedroom/office, spacious primary suite, versatile bonus room + two fireplaces

Outdoor Living: Oversized fully fenced private courtyard, screened patio + outdoor shower, balcony

Big-Ticket Updates: 2023 roof, 2021 HVAC + 2021 electrical panel

Mimi McKee
REALTOR SINCE 2012

Watch for me around town!
Making Moves Easier.



(386) 576-7722
nsbMimi@gmail.com
@nsbmimi.realtor

AWS ROOFING

Quality, local roofing services you can count on.



CCC1334429

Protect Your Home with AWS Roofing

Residential & Commercial | Roof Replacements
Roof Repairs | Free Estimates | Trusted Service

Call AWS Roofing today to schedule your free estimate or free inspection!

AWSROOFING.COM | 386-245-8941

ECC OCT 2026.indd 34 9/29/26 1:10 PM

Backwater *Fishing* Report



Best Days to Fish:
October 2-3, 7-13, 17-19, 25-27, 31

As summer wraps up and the fall season kicks in, the fishing will remain strong with more bait showing up with the mullet run, cooler weather and the start of clearer waters moving into October. This past month saw some incredible fishing on both the north and south side of the Ponce Inlet jetty. Schools of redfish and snook were taking their territory and the anglers were reaping the benefits!

On a clean no-wind morning, I met up with Sheriff Bill Levin (@OllBill) and we hit the north side of Ponce Inlet jetty and absolutely put a whopping on them redfish with multiple double ups and singles for a few hours. Bill ended up catching a 50-incher that weighed about 45 pounds! There were many boats out that day and everyone was on the slay. We used live croakers and mullet for our choice of baits. Can't thank Sheriff Bill enough for the epic morning and tight lines!



Just south of the New Smyrna Beach Inlet, Ryan Rawson and his son Ryland have been on a tear catching snook and redfish off the beach. Interestingly enough, they have been using a jighead as the hook with live mullet. This makes sense as this method keeps the bait at the bottom where the fish have been lurking.

This summer has been one for the records with so much snook and redfish just off the shoreline both in Daytona and New Smyrna. This coming winter is looking like a wet one, so it will be a pick-and-choose type of season for prime fishing. Let's hope for the best!

Until Next Time... Cast Em... Hook Em... And Catch Em!





PATRICK "TUPAT" EICHSTAEDT | @ THEREALTUPAT

A seasoned fishing guide with an unparalleled knowledge of the area's backwaters. Beyond the boat, he's a talented photographer, capturing the natural beauty of Florida's coast. Patrick is also the creator of Tupat's Hawaiian Poke Sauce, a culinary favorite featured on menus throughout the United States.

AUTHENTIC Tupat's SAUCES

ECC OCT 2026.indd 35 9/29/26 1:10 PM

TWO FAMILY FAVORITES, *side by side* ON FLAGLER AVE

Clancy's CANTINA
BEACH-INSPIRED TEX-MEX

Family owned Tex-Mex restaurant serving delicious food and cold margaritas

clancyscantina.com
386-428-4500
301 Flagler Ave,
New Smyrna Beach 32169

Monday-Thursday 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Friday & Saturday 11:00 AM - 10:00 PM
Sunday 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM



Café Verde
Food Without Borders

cafeverdensb.com
386-957-3958
301 Flagler Ave,
New Smyrna Beach 32169

Tuesday-Sunday
11:00 AM - 9:00 PM



Family-Owned. | ONE ADDRESS. TWO EXPERIENCES.

Buddy Davenport
StateFarm™
386-426-2886
callbuddynow.com

Family. Friends. Community.

Ponce Inlet October Tide Chart



PREMIER MARINE UNDERWATER SERVICES
386.220.3420 | PremierMarineDetailing.com

US HARBORS www.USHarbors.com

Ponce De Leon Inlet South, FL - Oct 2026

Date		High				Low				☼	☾	
		AM	ft	PM	ft	AM	ft	PM	ft	Rise	Set	Moon
1	Thu	12:00	3.3	12:37	4.2	5:52	0.5	7:08	0.9	7:16	7:09	
2	Fri	12:56	3.2	1:38	4.1	6:55	0.6	8:12	1.0	7:17	7:08	
3	Sat	1:58	3.1	2:44	4.0	8:00	0.6	9:14	1.0	7:17	7:07	
4	Sun	3:07	3.2	3:53	4.0	9:05	0.6	10:14	1.0	7:18	7:06	
5	Mon	4:18	3.3	4:58	4.0	10:11	0.6	11:12	0.9	7:19	7:04	
6	Tue	5:22	3.5	5:54	4.0	11:16	0.6			7:19	7:03	
7	Wed	6:18	3.7	6:44	3.9	12:04	0.8	12:17	0.6	7:20	7:02	
8	Thu	7:09	3.9	7:31	3.9	12:52	0.7	1:13	0.6	7:20	7:01	
9	Fri	7:58	4.1	8:16	3.7	1:36	0.6	2:06	0.6	7:21	7:00	
10	Sat	8:44	4.2	9:00	3.6	2:16	0.5	2:53	0.7	7:21	6:59	
11	Sun	9:27	4.2	9:41	3.5	2:54	0.6	3:37	0.7	7:22	6:58	
12	Mon	10:08	4.2	10:21	3.3	3:30	0.6	4:19	0.9	7:23	6:57	
13	Tue	10:48	4.1	11:00	3.2	4:06	0.7	5:01	1.0	7:23	6:55	
14	Wed	11:29	3.9	11:41	3.1	4:43	0.9	5:47	1.1	7:24	6:54	
15	Thu			12:11	3.8	5:25	1.0	6:39	1.3	7:24	6:53	
16	Fri	12:24	3.0	12:58	3.7	6:15	1.1	7:32	1.3	7:25	6:52	
17	Sat	1:11	3.0	1:48	3.6	7:11	1.2	8:24	1.4	7:26	6:51	
18	Sun	2:05	2.9	2:43	3.5	8:07	1.2	9:13	1.3	7:26	6:50	
19	Mon	3:05	2.9	3:41	3.5	9:02	1.2	10:02	1.3	7:27	6:49	
20	Tue	4:10	3.0	4:38	3.5	9:58	1.2	10:49	1.2	7:28	6:48	
21	Wed	5:07	3.2	5:28	3.6	10:55	1.1	11:33	1.0	7:28	6:47	
22	Thu	5:56	3.4	6:13	3.6	11:50	1.0			7:29	6:46	
23	Fri	6:41	3.7	6:56	3.6	12:15	0.8	12:42	0.9	7:30	6:45	
24	Sat	7:25	3.9	7:41	3.6	12:56	0.7	1:33	0.8	7:30	6:44	
25	Sun	8:11	4.2	8:28	3.6	1:37	0.5	2:23	0.7	7:31	6:43	
26	Mon	8:57	4.4	9:16	3.6	2:20	0.4	3:11	0.6	7:32	6:43	
27	Tue	9:45	4.5	10:04	3.5	3:03	0.3	4:00	0.6	7:32	6:42	
28	Wed	10:35	4.5	10:55	3.4	3:49	0.3	4:53	0.7	7:33	6:41	
29	Thu	11:28	4.5	11:49	3.4	4:39	0.4	5:51	0.8	7:34	6:40	
30	Fri			12:25	4.3	5:37	0.4	6:55	0.8	7:34	6:39	
31	Sat	12:47	3.3	1:25	4.2	6:43	0.5	7:58	0.9	7:35	6:38	

ECC OCT 2026.indd 36 9/29/26 1:10 PM

HOOKED ON™ SUZUKI

DIAMOND SUZUKI

www.DiamondMotorsAndMarine.com



IT'S ALL ABOUT

GETTING THERE FIRST

BASS DON'T HAVE A CHANCE

Since 2008 the DF250SS brings excitement to the water and the bass don't have a chance. This SS series model takes advantage of Suzuki's "Big Block" displacement, offset driveshaft and 2-stage gear reduction, as well as multipoint sequential electronic fuel injection. These Suzuki innovations deliver a powerful hole shot, exhilarating mid-range punch and great fuel economy. The exclusive SS Trim Package, matte black paint job and striking cowling graphics are a perfect match to the performance of these proven engines.

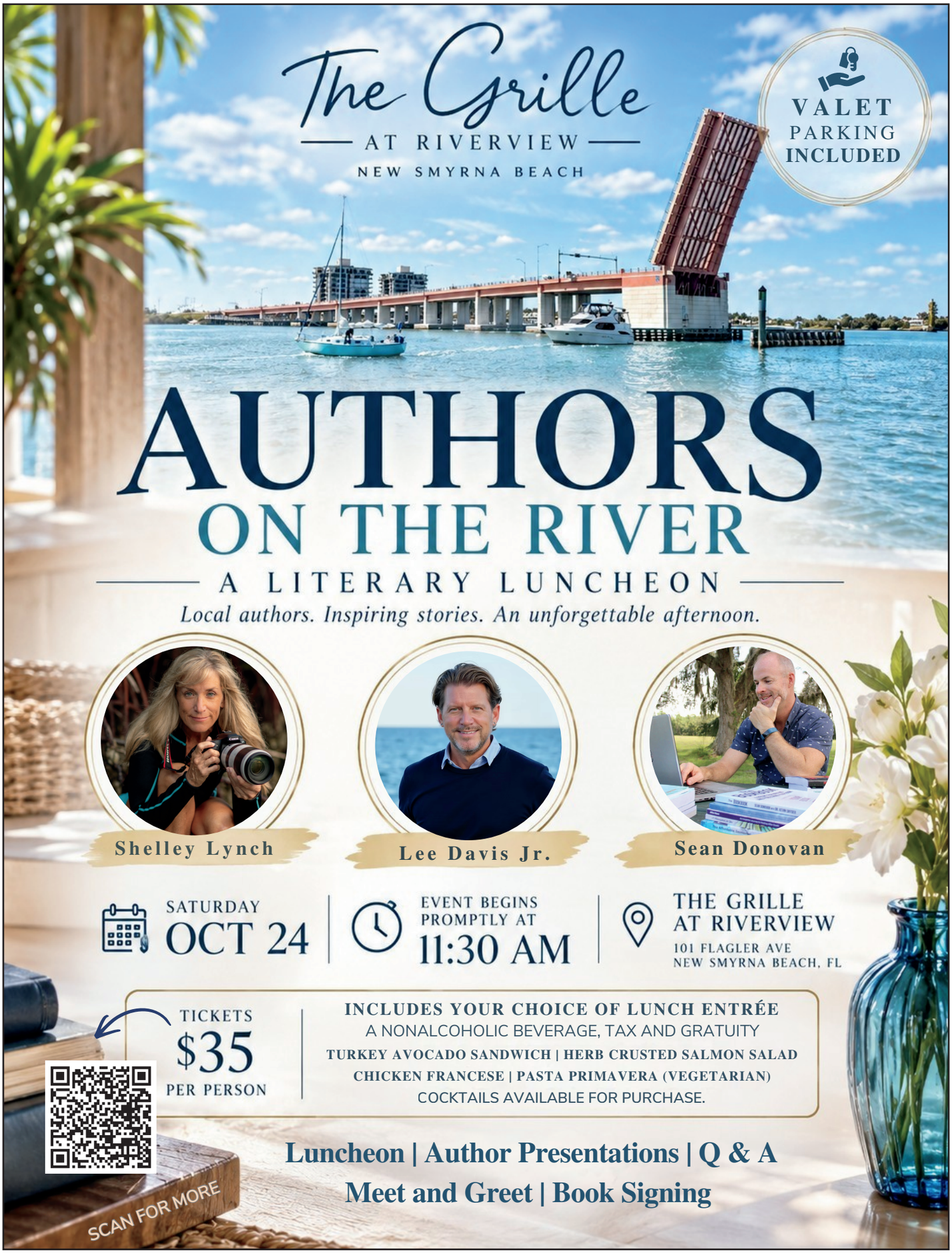
SUZUKI MARINE

SUZUKI MARINE 5 YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY

THE ULTIMATE OUTBOARD MOTOR

(386) 424-9000 | 911 N. DIXIE FWY • NEW SMYRNA BEACH, FL 32168

ECC OCT 2026.indd 37 9/29/26 1:10 PM



ECC OCT 2026.indd 38 9/29/26 1:10 PM

COLT'S BBQ & STEAKHOUSE

★ FINE SOUTHERN BBQ ★

– Locally Owned & Operated –

Let us Cater your Private Party!

INTRODUCING OUR NEW USDA CHOICE STEAK SELECTIONS!

Savor premium, hand-cut steaks, oak grilled to perfection.

- 10 oz Sirloin
- 8 oz Filet
- 18 oz T-Bone
- 12 oz NY Strip
- 14 oz Ribeye

$5 MARGARITAS ALL DAY, EVERYDAY!

NOW HIRING

(386) 287-5588

OPEN 7 DAYS 11 AM - 9 PM

723 EAST 3RD AVE

NEW SMYRNA BEACH, FL 32169

www.COLTSPIGSTAND.com

Where you Feel like you are Home!

Visit All Our Locations

ORANGE CITY - 1340 SAXON BLVD. ORANGE CITY, FL 32763 (386) 218-4003

ORMOND BEACH - 1633 NORTH US1, ORMOND BEACH, FL 32174 (386) 898-0360

ECC OCT 2026.indd 39 9/29/26 1:10 PM