

OFFICIAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS



FIND THE FULL WEEK OF EVENTS ON PAGE 16 OF THIS ISSUE.



EAST COAST CURRENT  
APRIL 2026

# Local *Fishing Report*



PONCE INLET MONTHLY  
TIDE CHART

## COASTAL CROSSROADS

Balancing growth while trying to preserve our coastal identity.

## EVENT CALENDAR

What's going on throughout Volusia County this month.

## TRAVEL FL OR BUST

Illumi-Nature transforms Brevard Zoo into a glowing nighttime experience.

## THE BOAT COACH

Guided trips uncover a quieter & adventurous side of the St. Johns River.

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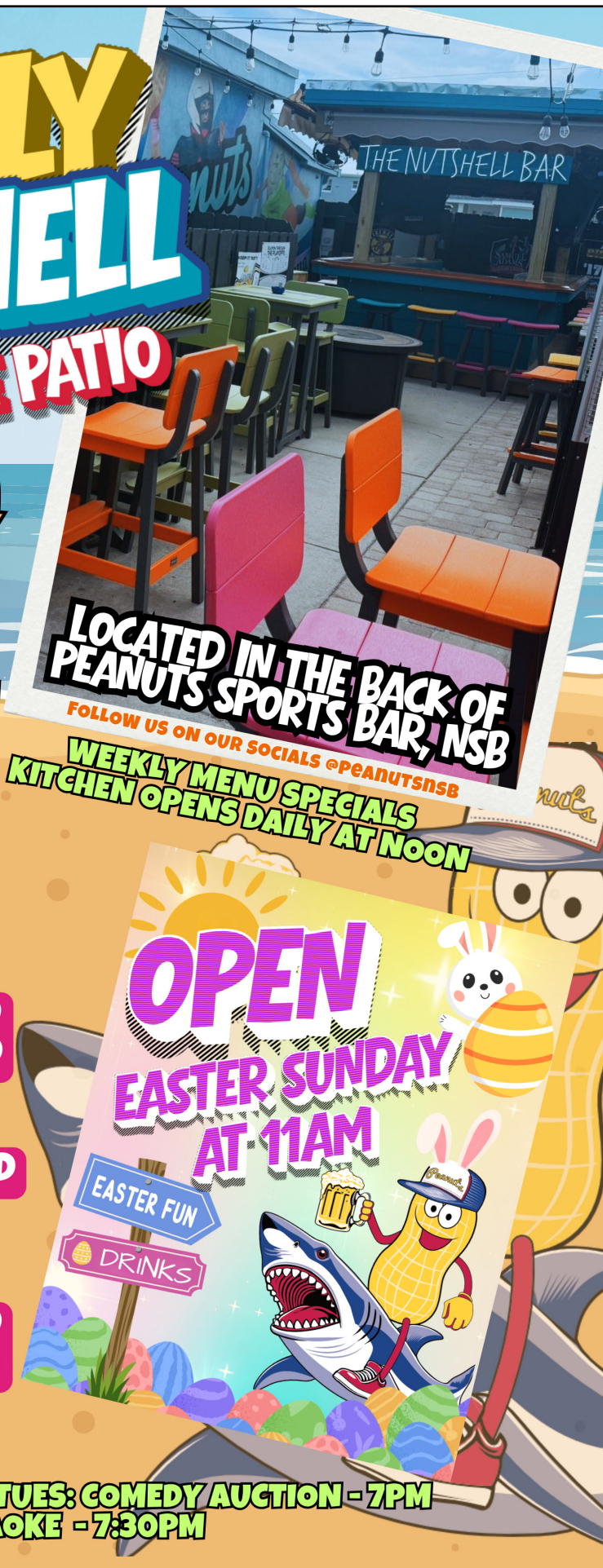
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AT  
11AM**

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## APRIL LIVE MUSIC

- THU. 02 - THE JOHNCATS
- FRI. 03 - LOUNGE LYZARDS
- SAT. 04 - UNDERCOVER NSB
- SUN. 05 - NUTHOUSE JAM
- THU. 09 - BROTHERS FUTCH
- FRI. 10 - CHEAP THRILLS BAND
- SAT. 11 - CHEAP THRILLS BAND
- SUN. 12 - NUTHOUSE JAM
- THU. 16 - THE JOHNCATS
- FRI. 17 - THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID
- SAT. 18 - INSOMNIA
- SUN. 19 - NUTHOUSE JAM
- THU. 23 - SOBER CAFE
- FRI. 24 - CHEAP THRILLS BAND
- SAT. 25 - POP CULTURE POETS
- SUN. 26 - NUTHOUSE JAM
- THU. 30 - THE JOHN CATS

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WED. KARAOKE - 7:30PM**



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Jeep Beach Images by:  
**Jonny Nomad**

PHOTOGRAPHY + VIDEOGRAPHY ON THE GROUND OR IN THE SKY

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VOL.12 ISSUE 4

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Building local leaders through connection, education, and community engagement.
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- 29 **The Boat Coach**  
A series of guided boat trips reveals a quieter, more adventurous side of the St. Johns River, where hidden channels, wildlife and unexpected moments make the journey just as meaningful as the destination.



**ALL NEW MENU**  
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# Editor's Letter

## Rolling Into April at Full Speed

**March felt like someone hit the fast-forward button. The weather finally turned, Spring Break rolled in, Bike Week took over, and just like that, the calendar was packed. If you were trying to "ease into" the season, that ship has sailed. And honestly? April isn't slowing down either.**

One of the biggest things we look forward to every year is Jeep Beach, and we're incredibly proud to be their media partner once again, publishing the official entertainment schedule for the entire week.

### JEEP BEACH 2026 | APRIL 17-26

If you're not familiar with Jeep Beach, it's not just a big event, it's a year-round grassroots nonprofit that gives back to our community in a big way. Yes, it brings in visitors (a lot of them), and yes, that's a huge boost for our local businesses. But what really stands out is how intentional they are about giving back and taking care of the community they're visiting.

Now, full disclosure, I've never actually owned a Jeep.

But there was one week, a few years ago, I swapped vehicles with a friend. I had a minivan, he had this lifted, decked-out, looks-like-it-could-survive-the-apocalypse Jeep. He needed a vehicle with more space, so we traded.

Let me tell you, that Jeep was the most fun I've ever had driving a vehicle. I felt like a total badass. And more than that, I got a firsthand look at Jeep culture. The waves. The nods. The unspoken "you're one of us now." It's a whole vibe.

Jeep Beach takes that feeling and multiplies it by about a thousand. This isn't just one event, it's a full week of activities. Vendors, live music, food trucks, obstacle courses, beach parades... you name it. And while it's one of the largest Jeep-only events in the country, what makes it special is the purpose behind it. They're raising money for local nonprofits, supporting the community, and even organizing cleanups to make sure they leave things better than they found them. That matters.

We want people to come here, enjoy what we have, support our businesses, but also respect the place we call home. Jeep Beach strives to get that balance right.

### THE EVENT 2026 | APRIL 11

And just before Jeep Beach gets underway, there's another event worth checking out, The Event 2026. It's an all ages sports competition that raises money for local youth sports programs. It's happening Saturday, April 11, at the New Smyrna Beach Sports Complex Flex Field on Sunset Drive. Tom the Mime from SeaWorld will be there to kick things off and even compete in the games. My husband and I compete every year and it's so much fun.

So get out, get involved, and enjoy everything this season has to offer.

XO,

Tiffany Sudakis | Editor in Chief



### EAST COAST CURRENT

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

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OUR CHARLEVOIX LOCATION WILL REOPEN IN MAY.

WE HOST FUNDRAISERS AND FASHION SHOWS — FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR UPCOMING DATES

## THE EVENT 2026

Old-School Field Day. New-School Fun.

**SAT | APRIL 11 | 2026**  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (Last Competitor at 11:30 am)  
NSB Sports Complex - Flex Field - 2335 Sunset Dr, NSB 32168

Featuring **Special Guest Tom the Mime**  
Photo Opps | Meet & Greet Included w/ Ticket

Tom the Mime

Special Appearance by Shark Coast FC Semi-Pro Team

This field day competition is open to everyone, no matter your age. You have 3 chances to make a point at each game station: Baseball, Basketball, Soccer & Football.

Adults (16+) - \$30	Kids (15 & under) - \$10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entry to games</li> <li>• Event T-shirt</li> <li>• Raffle ticket</li> <li>• Meet &amp; Greet</li> <li>• Photo Opps</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entry to games</li> <li>• Goodie bag</li> <li>• Face Painting</li> <li>• Meet &amp; Greet</li> <li>• Photo Opps</li> </ul>

Winners will be announced at the after party beginning at 1PM at Lost Lagoon (2004 N. Dixie Freeway, NSB)

GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!  
Table2Events.com for more

**TABLE 2 COMMITTEE** This event is hosted by Table 2 Committee, a non profit 501(c)(3) that has donated over \$50,000 to youth sports programs since 2018.

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# Coastal Crossroads

## Shorelines to City Lines: Key Projects in Southeast Volusia

**In New Smyrna Beach, residents and visitors can't help but notice the changes happening along the shoreline. A large-scale beach and dune restoration project is currently underway, aimed at strengthening the coastline after years of storm erosion. The effort includes rebuilding miles of protective dunes and adding significant volumes of sand to stabilize vulnerable areas. Local officials say the work is critical to protecting homes, infrastructure, and the tourism economy that supports much of the area.**

According to Volusia County, the projects are funded by a grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and are being conducted in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Florida Inland Navigation District.

While the project is expected to improve long-term resiliency, it has temporarily impacted beach access at several entry points. Beach drivers are encouraged to consult the Volusia Beaches app for the most current status of access ramps. Dune plantings will begin once berm construction is complete and the dredge pipeline has been removed from the beach. A sand placement map is also available on the county's website under its coastal division.

Further inland, conversations continue around the proposed Deering Park Innovation Center near State Road 44 and Interstate 95. The large-scale mixed-use development would introduce residential housing, commercial space, and recreational facilities, marking it as one of the most significant growth proposals in the city's recent history. Community discussions have largely centered on traffic, density, and how the

project could shape the character of the area moving forward.

Just south in Edgewater, development momentum is accelerating. The Parks at Edgewater project, led by national homebuilder Lennar, continues to move forward following a recent legal decision that cleared the way for expansion. The settlement comes after the city attempted to block construction of hundreds of new homes in flood-prone areas, leading to legal action from the developer. The project is expected to bring additional housing inventory to a market that has seen steady demand in recent years.

Edgewater is also positioned to benefit from broader regional growth tied to the Deering Park area near the Interstate 95 corridor. With plans for residential, medical, retail, and industrial space, the project could introduce new jobs and economic activity, further establishing the city as a growing hub within Southeast Volusia.

In Port Orange, changes are less concentrated in a single project but are being felt through infrastructure planning and regional spillover. As surrounding communities expand, Port Orange con-



*A berm rises along Flagler Avenue in New Smyrna Beach as crews continue dune restoration efforts.  
Photo by Matthew McKee (mobile)*

tinues to see increased pressure on roadways, housing availability, and commercial development.

Local leaders are also prioritizing stormwater and flood mitigation planning as part of a broader effort across Volusia County to address long-term resiliency and rising insurance considerations in coastal and low-lying areas.

Across all three communities, these shifts are beginning to show up in local housing trends. Increased inventory in some areas, combined with continued buyer demand, is creating a more balanced market compared to the fast-paced conditions of recent years. At the same time, large-scale developments and infrastructure improvements are

influencing how and where future growth will occur.

From shoreline protection in New Smyrna Beach to residential expansion in Edgewater and infrastructure planning in Port Orange, Southeast Volusia is navigating a balance between growth and preservation.

For locals, the changes may show up in different ways; detours at the beach, new construction on familiar roads, or evolving conversations about what the future should look like. At its core, however, the story remains the same: a coastal community working to protect what it has while thoughtfully planning for what comes next.



**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.*

# Insurance *Insights*

## Let Us Handle It: How Trust Public Adjusting Group Takes the Stress Out of Insurance Claims

Dealing with property damage is stressful enough. Navigating the insurance claim process on top of that can feel overwhelming, confusing, and time-consuming. That's where Trust Public Adjusting Group steps in.

Whether it's a residential home or a large commercial property, our mission is simple: take the burden off your shoulders and manage your claim from start to finish—accurately, efficiently, and always in your best interest.

After a storm or sudden loss, it's common for contractors to show up quickly, offering fast repairs and reassuring you that everything will be "covered." Unfortunately, many property owners unknowingly sign agreements that limit their rights or control over the claim. That's a risk you don't want to take.

At Trust Public Adjusting Group, we act as your advocate and your buffer. We help you understand exactly what you're signing, what your policy truly covers, and how to avoid costly mistakes. During what is often a stressful and vulnerable time, our role is to protect you.



Our team has handled thousands of claims across Florida and understands exactly how insurance carriers operate. We don't just assist with your claim—we strategically manage it. That includes thoroughly documenting damages, coordinating inspections, and pushing back when claims are underpaid or delayed.

One of the key advantages we bring is the strength of our estimating. We use Level III certified Xactimate estimators—the highest standard in the industry—working within the same pricing systems insurance companies rely on. Every estimate we produce is detailed, accurate, and fully supportable. Just as important, we include both Replacement Cost Value (RCV) and Actual Cash Value (ACV), which are essential components when pursuing a claim properly and protecting your rights throughout the process.

At Trust Public Adjusting Group, we understand how complicated and frustrating insurance claims can be. That's why we've built our reputation on making the process easier, faster, and more effective for our clients. With nearly a decade of experience, we've helped thousands of Florida property owners recover what they're rightfully owed—while eliminating unnecessary stress and confusion.

If you're dealing with property damage—or want to be prepared before it happens—don't go through it alone. Let the professionals handle the claim, so you can focus on what matters most: getting your property and your life back to normal.

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A person in a white shirt is shaking hands with another person in a blue shirt. In the background, there is a desk with a calculator, a pen, and a clipboard with a "PROPERTY LOSS CLAIM" form. The form has a pen resting on it.

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# #ECC Told Me

Local Highlights

## 1 The Little Theatre of New Smyrna Beach Presents Marjorie Prime

The Little Theatre of New Smyrna Beach is proud to present a drama that has just finished its two month run on Broadway!



**MARJORIE PRIME**  
Directed by Ray Flynt  
A Sci-Fi, family drama

7:30 PM Showings:  
April 23, 24, 25, 30, May 1 & 2

2:00 PM Showings:  
April 25 & May 3

Adults \$22, Seniors \$21,  
Students \$11

What would you say to someone you lost, if you could see them again? What if they're a better listener now than when they were alive? Pulitzer Prize finalist Jordan Harrison reinvents the family drama in his richly spare, wryly funny, and powerful "Marjorie Prime."

A heart-achingly beautiful rumination on aging and artificial intelligence, memory and mortality, love and legacy, Marjorie Prime examines the blurred line between a life lived and a life remembered.



Marjorie (Hannah Weil, seated) is supported by her family: daughter Tess (Karen Poulsen), son-in-law Jon (Dennis Amaral), and Walter, an AI companion (Michael Slagel)

All tickets may be purchased online, by phone, or in person at the box office. For tickets, show details, and everything happening at The Little Theatre, simply scan the QR code.



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



# JEEP BEACH 2026 EVENT SCHEDULE

## 2 Jeep Beach 2026 Invites the Community to Join Public Events, Concerts and Charity Activities Across Daytona Beach

Jeep Beach 2026 returns April 17 - 26, bringing one of the nation's largest Jeep-only events back to Volusia County. Known for its weeklong celebration of Jeep culture, off-road enthusiasts, and community giving, Jeep Beach attracts thousands of visitors each year while raising millions for local charities.

PHOTO BY: JONNY NOMAD



While many activities are tailored to Jeep owners, several exciting events are open to the public without registering for Jeep Beach, making it easy for locals and visitors without a Jeep to join in the fun! \*Ticketed admission still required for below listed events

Kicking off the week is the "Are Friends Electric" Jeep Beach Kickoff Concert on Friday, April 17 from 7-9 PM at MetroHealth Stadium at Pictona in Holly Hill. This high-energy show features favorite hits from the '80s and '90s, plus food, dancing, and family-friendly fun. Attendance is limited to 1,000 guests, and advance tickets range from \$15-\$25.

On Saturday, April 18, the 15th Annual Spring Break Reggae Festival takes over the Pavilion at Destination Daytona in Ormond Beach from 12 PM to 11:30 PM. Headlined by Third World with special guests Kumar Fyah, this full-day event delivers laid-back vibes and live reggae performances. Tickets range from \$65-\$105.

On Sunday, April 19, join the Jeep Beach Sunset 5K and Fun Run on the sand at Hard Rock Hotel in Daytona Beach. Participants receive a shirt and finisher medal for \$35 registration (price increases after April 18).

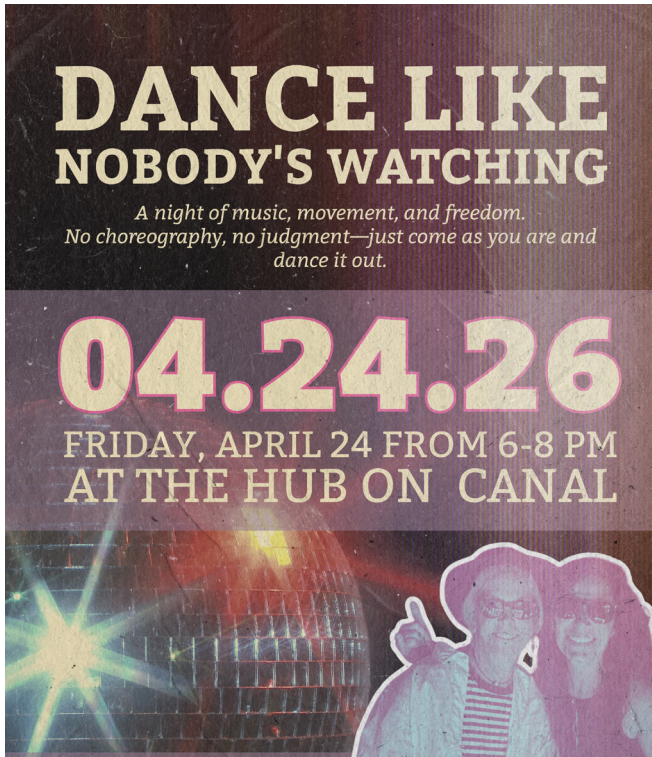
**Jeep Beach 2026 | April 17 - 26 | @officialjeepbach**  
Full schedule of events available online: [JeepBeach.com](https://JeepBeach.com)  
A volunteer supported event recognized as the  
World's Largest Jeep Exclusive Event



# 3

## Dance Like Nobody's Watching: A Night of Pure Liberation

Step out of the daily grind and into the groove on Friday, April 24, as The Hub on Canal transforms into a sanctuary of sound and soul. From 6 to 8 PM, DJ Midgee will be taking over the decks, curating a sonic journey designed for one thing: total freedom.



We're turning the lights down low and the volume up high, creating a judgment-free zone where the only requirement is to let the music move you. Whether you're a seasoned dancer or just need to shake off the week, this is your invitation to reclaim your rhythm and dance like nobody is watching.

The energy doesn't stop at the dance floor. For those feeling a spark of extra confidence, we're opening up the floor for you to channel your inner icon. Pick your favorite anthem and lip-sync like the star you secretly are - no professional experience required, just pure, bold energy.

It's more than just a dance party; it's a celebration of movement, music, and the joy of being unapologetically yourself. Come for the beats, stay for the breakthrough, and leave feeling completely recharged.



\$5 cover charge, wine and beer available for purchase.

### Dance Like Nobody's Watching

The Hub on Canal, 132 Canal St, NSB, 32168  
Friday, April 24, 6:00 - 8:00 PM  
TheHubOnCanal.org



# 4

## From Bar Service to Breakfast & Beyond: BeeFly's Next Chapter Takes Off

BeeFly is raising the bar on local bartending services, offering a full-service, professional experience for private parties, weddings, birthdays and special events. Owned by longtime best friends Teresa and Nicolle, the company has become a go-to around town for reliable, friendly bartenders who bring everything needed to serve—cups, napkins, straws, mixers, juices and even ice packages. Clients can also request custom drink menus tailored to their event. Pricing is flexible and based on guest count and specific needs, making BeeFly an easy choice for both intimate gatherings and large celebrations.

Building on that momentum, Teresa and Nicolle have expanded their brand with BeeFly Grab and Go Cafe, a new concept fueled by their shared passion for food and decades of restaurant experience.

Located inside Radiant Studios, a hub for beauty and wellness professionals, the cafe features a fresh, convenient menu with custom coffee drinks, smoothies and daily-made parfaits. A grab-and-go cooler is stocked with fresh soups and other ready-made options, alongside sandwiches, wraps, hot paninis, salads and bowls.



The cafe is open Tuesday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., and is closed Sunday and Monday. Follow BeeFly on social media for daily specials and updates.

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**BeeFly Grab N Go Cafe** | Suite 501  
4647 S. Clyde Morris Blvd | Port Orange 32129  
Inside Radiant Studios





# 5

## Dutch Oven Bread Co. Celebrates New Location with Ribbon Cutting

Our recent ribbon cutting marked a milestone we've been working toward for a long time! The support from our employees, family, friends, customers and NSB Chamber members reminded us why we started this in the first place.

This bakery has been a journey from day one. What began as an idea in our home kitchen slowly turned into what it is today - a thriving bread and pastry shop in downtown NSB. There were plenty of moments where things felt uncertain, but we kept moving forward, piece by piece, with the belief that it would come together.



To stand here now, officially open and surrounded by people who genuinely care, is incredibly meaningful. This space isn't just ours, it belongs to the community and employees that continue to support it and help it grow.

We're proud of how far we've come, but even more excited for what's ahead. Thank you to everyone who showed up, supported us, and continues to be part of this story. It truly means everything.



### 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

## Volusia Senior Expo

The Volusia Senior Expo returns to the Brannon Center on Sunday, May 3rd! Join us from 11 AM to 3 PM for a fun event designed to connect seniors and caregivers with valuable resources, services, and activities to help them stay healthy, happy, and informed.

### ENJOY FREE:

- Admission
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### LEARN ABOUT:

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- Real Estate & Mortgage solutions
- Retirement living choices
- And more programs and services!

A special thank you to presenting sponsors HealthFirst Health Plans and Holland Financial, and event sponsors Conquest Research and Renuity for their support.

For any inquiries about sponsoring this community event or becoming a vendor, please email [info@touchofmagicevents.com](mailto:info@touchofmagicevents.com).

### Volusia Senior Expo

Sun, May 3 @ 11 AM - 3 PM | Brannon Center  
 105 S Riverside Drive, New Smyrna Beach 32168  
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# Community Cheers

## Turning 40, and Bringing Everyone Together

**My sister and I were born just one year and 10 days apart, which means we shared a lot of birthday parties growing up! Rather than having back-to-back events, we would work with my parents to choose a combined theme and a date in the middle of our days to invite our friends to. I do recall one year where we had separate Barbie cakes, but for the most part, even the food was a shared experience.**

Despite getting tired of this tradition by the time I became a teenager, I am now about to turn 40 and have been doing the same thing for my two youngest daughters and myself for the last several years. I actually share the exact same birth year and day with my good friend here in Daytona, Dr. Ronnie Mack: April 22, 1986. The first year we realized this, I already had a party in mind for my birthday and just invited

him in for the shenanigans, but for the last two years, we have worked together to plan a joint celebration.

This year's party will be a throw-back to last year's and everyone is invited! We'll meet inside The Connect (565 Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Blvd., Daytona Beach) between 1 and 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 25. The annual Crab & Seafood Festival will be taking place along the avenue out front from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., so we'll be able to enjoy delicious food, drinks, and desserts all day long.

Our hope is that folks joining us will support local vendors and stay for the music and kids' zone in Daisy Stocking Park nearby.

If you are not a big fan of festivals and parties, I also plan to join local author, Deb Gregory, on a "Contemplative Walk" through the Gardens at the Ormond Memorial Art Museum (78 E Granada Blvd., Ormond Beach) on Friday, April 24 at 10:30 a.m. Deb has a new book out about using walking or "wayfinding" as a spiritual



discipline and will be leading us in looking for fractals, spirals, and other natural textures throughout the garden.

Both Ronnie and I value connecting people in the community to each other and supporting local businesses and events. Whether it's joining us for a large street festival or on a quiet walk, we just

want to see you out and about! Feel free to tag me, @CassGoAroundDaytona, in any of the spots you visit during the month of April as your gift to me for my 40th birthday!



**CASSIE GONYER | CASSIE@ECTOLDME.COM**

Lives in Daytona Beach with her husband, three daughters, two housemates, and a "doug" (dachs-hund-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@ECToldMe.com — shed love to hear from you!*

# Bobby G @ Disney Springs

## A Staycation Done Right at Disney Springs

**With a tight window between work shifts, a full vacation wasn't in the cards for me, my wife Tiffany and our son Porter. So we did what you do in Central Florida when time is short: we went straight to Disney Springs and made a day of it. No easing into it. No overthinking. Just straight there.**

Tiffany and Porter had a mission from the start: Pokémon Go. Tablets in hand, they were locked in, catching everything in sight. And to be fair, Disney Springs is loaded for that kind of thing. Every few steps, something new pops up. Porter was all in. Tiffany wasn't far behind. I mostly kept pace and took it all in.

We made a stop at The CrazyShake, and the milkshakes alone are reason enough to go back. These things show up oversized, overbuilt and borderline ridiculous — in the best way. Porter's chocolate chip shake looked like it needed its own table, stacked high and loaded to the point where you don't so much drink it as work your way through it. Tiffany and I split an Oreo cookies-and-cream, and both shakes came topped with their own full-on ice cream creations and cookies, like dessert on top of dessert. Somehow, it all worked — rich, cold and exactly as good as it looked. Worth it.

Right on schedule, the weather shifted. Rain came in fast, and we adjusted just as quickly, cutting over to Splitsville Luxury Lanes. The line looked long enough to test patience, but booking the camera

package ahead of time paid off — we were in without much delay.

We ended up playing two and a half games, and for that day, I was the big winner. I won't overanalyze it, but I will acknowledge it. Still, we were all winners, mostly because of how much fun we had. And the photos? Even better than expected. Mid-bowl action shots, questionable form, intense focus for no real reason. Every picture had something going on. It added a whole extra layer to the night.

After that, we headed to check into our hotel, jumped into the jacuzzi for a bit, still cold outside, still worth it, and got cleaned up before dinner at T-Rex Cafe.



That place is an experience. Every 20 minutes, the lights drop, the noise kicks up, and a full meteor shower rolls through the dining room. It's loud, it's dark, and it works.

The food was great, but the atmosphere is what sticks with you. Porter spent time digging through the sand, uncovering fossils like he had a real assignment. Tiffany and I just took it all in.

From there, we called it a night and headed back to the hotel. It had been a full day, the kind that feels longer than it is, in a good way.

Then came the final chapter: sleep. Or at least the attempt.

One room. Three people. And Porter, who apparently turns into a full-volume snorer the second his head hits the pillow. It was steady. Consistent. Impressive, honestly. Next time, we plan ahead. Either headphones or Porter gets his own room. Lesson learned.

Still, for a one-day window, we got everything out of it we could. And then some.

And don't worry, we didn't leave Bailey out of the fun — she joined a friend in Black Mountain, North Carolina, and saw snow for the first time. Safe to say that one's checked off her bucket list.

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](mailto:Tiffany@ECCtoldme.com)

# JEEP BEACH 2026

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# JEEP BEACH

Kids club

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**Jeep Beach Kids Club**  
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# WEEK AT A GLANCE

....and so much more!

## FRIDAY, APRIL 17

**ARE FRIENDS ELECTRIC** - Jeep Beach Kickoff Concert at Pictona in Holly Hill - 7:00pm - 9:00pm  
Open to the Public - Purchase Required

## SATURDAY, APRIL 18

**SEE GIVEAWAY JEEP** at Ormond's Celtic Festival!  
9:00am - 4:00pm - Open to the Public - Purchase Required  
**SPRING BREAK REGGAE FEST**  
2:00pm - 11:00pm - Open to the Public - Purchase Required

## SUNDAY, APRIL 19

**SEE GIVEAWAY JEEP** at Ormond's Celtic Festival!  
9:00am - 4:00pm - Open to the Public - Purchase Required  
**JB SUNSET IN THE SAND 5K**  
5:00pm - 7:00pm - Open to the Public - Purchase Required to enter Race  
**JEEP BEACH ON TAP** at Ormond Brewery Co  
6:00pm - 10:00pm  
Location: 301 Division Ave UNIT 15, Ormond Beach, FL 32174  
Open to the Public

## MONDAY, APRIL 20

**REGISTRATION OPENS** - Daytona International Speedway - GATE 70 - 9:00am - 4:00pm  
Location: 616 Midway Ave, Daytona Beach, FL 32114  
**CLASSIC JEEPS** at Copper Bottom Craft distillery  
5:00pm - 8:00pm  
Location: 998 N Beach St, Holly Hill, FL 32117  
\*\* JB26 Registered Jeeps Years 1995 and older \*\*  
See full classic jeeps schedule

## TUESDAY, APRIL 21

**REGISTRATION OPENS** - Daytona International Speedway - GATE 70  
9:00am - 4:00pm  
**REGISTRATION OPEN - TRACK LAPS - ONE DAY ONLY**  
Location: 616 Midway Ave, Daytona Beach, FL 32114  
JB26 Registration Required for Entry. Pre Purchase required.  
**JB IN BOOTS** - A Salute to Our Heroes / America 250 Celebration  
5:00pm - 9:00pm  
**RICK MONROE & THE HITMEN**  
Powered by   
**HANK ROBINSON** - Combat Infantryman turned Engraver  
Powered by   
**FIREWORKS**  
Location: 1 Daytona Blvd, Daytona Beach, FL 32114 - Open to the Public

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

**COASTAL CLEANUP SACK PICK-UP** and / Kick Off at Hard Rock Hotel  
8:00am - 10:00am  
Location: 918 N Atlantic Ave, Daytona Beach, FL 32118 - Open to the Public  
**REGISTRATION OPEN** - 9:00am - 4:00pm  
Vendor Load In  
Location: 616 Midway Ave, Daytona Beach, FL 32114  
**CRACKER RANCH** - 9:00am - 5:00pm  
Location: 797 Co Rd 200, Bunnell, FL 32110  
JB26 Registration Required for Entry. Cracker ranch - Pre Purchase required.  
**JB NEON NIGHTS SHOW & SHINE** - 5:00pm - 8:00pm  
location: 1801 W International Speedway Blvd  
To showcase - Pre Purchase required - Open to public

## THURSDAY, APRIL 23

**JB26 FREEDOM CHARITY RIDE** (100 Jeeps) - 7:30am - 11:30am  
7:30am - Registration Check-In  
8:45am - Safety Briefing  
9:00am - Roll Out  
11:00am - Arrive Veterans Park Esplanade  
**COASTAL CLEANUP SACK PICK-UP** and / Kick Off at Hard Rock Hotel  
8:00am - 10:00am  
Location: 918 N Atlantic Ave, Daytona Beach, FL 32118 - Open to the Public  
**REGISTRATION OPEN** - 9:00am - 4:00pm - Vendor Load In  
Location: 616 Midway Ave, Daytona Beach, FL 32114  
JB26 Registration Required for Entry. Cracker ranch - Pre Purchase required  
**CRACKER RANCH** - Location: 797 Co Rd 200, Bunnell, FL 32110  
**SHADEBRIGADE TIKI PARTY** - 7:00pm - 11:00pm  
Location: 918 N Atlantic Ave, Daytona Beach, FL 32118  
Open to the Public - Purchase Require.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 24

**JB26 MAIN EVENT** - 9:00am - 5:00pm  
Vendor Show / Obstacle Course / Sound Exhibition  
JB26 Registration Required for Entry. Sound Exhibition - No Cost but registration required  
Gate 40 - Daytona Beach, FL 32114

## SATURDAY, APRIL 25

**JB26 MAIN EVENT** - 9:00am - 5:00pm  
Vendor Show / Obstacle Course / Sound Exhibition  
JB26 Registration Required for Entry. Sound Exhibition - No Cost but registration required  
Gate 40 - Daytona Beach, FL 32114

## SUNDAY, APRIL 26

**JEEP PARADE** - More information at [jeepbeach.com](http://jeepbeach.com)



# JEEPBEACH.COM

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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sports/Races/  
Activities

Arts/  
Performances

Music

Food & Drink

Community

## RECURRING MONTHLY EVENTS

- **Art Walk** @ Granada, Ormond  
Apr 4 / May 2
- **Sip and Stroll** @ Canal St, NSB  
Apr 4 / May 2
- **Art Stroll** @ Canal St, NSB  
Apr 4 / May 2
- **Downtown Nights** @ Beach St  
Apr 3 / May 1
- **Art Walk** @ Beach St, Daytona  
Apr 3 / May 1
- **Cars on Canal** @ Canal St, NSB  
Apr 11 / May 9
- **DeLand Cruise-In** @ Indiana Ave.  
Apr 18 / May 16
- **Wine Walk** @ Flagler Ave, NSB  
Apr 25 / May 23

**11 SAT APR 11**  
12 - 9 PM

**Tanger Outlets, Daytona Beach**  
Daytona Tacos & Treats Festival

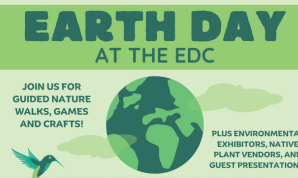
Battle Bros Events presents the 2nd annual Daytona Tacos & Treats Festival on April 11th, 2026 from 12 - 9 pm at Tanger Outlets. For vendor info, visit: [BattleBrosEvents.com/Vendors](https://BattleBrosEvents.com/Vendors).



**18 SAT APR 18**  
9 AM - 2 PM

**Environmental Discovery Center**  
Earth Day Celebration/Tree Giveaway

Join the Ormond Environmental Discovery Center for guided nature walks, games and crafts, native plant vendors and more! Select a free tree compliments of ReGrow the Loop and the City of Ormond Beach.



**25 SAT APR 25**  
12 - 7 PM

**Downtown DeLand**  
Thin Man Watts Jazz Festival

This multi-cultural festival will immerse you in cool jazz, soul, gospel and the blues across various city-wide venues. For a performance schedule and tickets, visit: [WattsJazzFest.com](https://WattsJazzFest.com). Presented by the African American Museum of Art and the MainStreet DeLand Association.



**4-30 APR 4 - MAY 4**  
DAILY

**Flagler Avenue, NSB**  
The Great NSB Margarita Tour

Grab your Tour Map from any participating Flagler Ave. location, purchase your full-sized margarita during the tour dates, collect your stamps with each purchase. Once all stamps are collected, drop your Tour Map in the mailbox by 401 Flagler Avenue for your chance to win! 21+



**12 SUN APR 12**  
10 AM - 5 PM

**The Casements, Ormond Beach**  
Jewish Heritage Festival

FREE and open to the public - this festival includes entertainment, Kosher and Kosher-style foods, kids activities and inflatables, camel rides, petting zoo, Holocaust Memorial, Jewish Hall of Fame, artists and craft vendors, and health fairs!



**18 SAT APR 18**  
10 AM - 1 PM

**Ponce Preserve, Ponce Inlet**  
Ponce Preserves the Planet

Ponce Inlet's own Earth Day Celebration! Family fun, food, crafts, art vendors celebrating Earth Day. Free. Event and parking will be at Ponce Preserve.



**26 SUN APR 26**  
2 - 3 PM

**Orange County History Ctr., Orlando**  
Tracing Florida Journeys

Author and historian Leslie Kemp Poole presents insights from her latest book on Florida's landscapes, history, and literary journeys, including the path of naturalist William Bartram. A Rollins College professor, Poole brings extensive research featured in books, PBS documentaries, and award-winning journalism. FREE, registration required at [TheHistoryCenter.org](https://TheHistoryCenter.org)



**11-12 APR 11 - 12**  
SAT-SUN @ 9 AM-5 PM

**Beach Street, Downtown Daytona**  
Daytona Beach Arts Fest

This art immersive experience will include juried fine art, artisans, craftworks, chalk art competition, mini murals, sunset concert and other live music, student art exhibit, kid's activities, food and more!



**16 THU APR 16**  
5 - 9 PM

**Flagler Avenue, NSB**  
NSB Food Festival

Multiple eateries may sample taste-sized portions of Volusia County restaurants' best dishes priced from \$5 to \$8. Enjoy live entertainment along the Avenue, shopping with the Merchants on Flagler Avenue and various vendors who sell their handmade items!



**24 FRI APR 24**  
6 - 8 PM

**The Hub on Canal, NSB**  
Dance Like Nobody's Watching

Step out of the daily grind and into the groove as The Hub on Canal transforms into a sanctuary of sound and soul. DJ Midgee will be taking over the decks and turning the lights down low and the volume up high, creating a judgment-free zone where the only requirement is to let the music move you. \$5 cover; wine and beer available.



**2-3 MAY 2 - 3**  
SAT-SUN @ 10 AM-5 PM

**Rockefeller Gardens, Ormond**  
Art in the Park

Fine artists and crafters from throughout the region join us along the banks of the Halifax River for a weekend of family-friendly fun featuring handmade arts, crafts, food trucks, and live entertainment. Free parking and admission!



**10-11 APR 11 - 12**  
SAT-SUN @ 10 AM-3 PM

**Marine Science Center, Ponce Inlet**  
Turtle Day

Enjoy FREE admission, plus educational booths sponsored by local conservation organizations, fun presentations given by MSC staff and volunteers, food, drinks and family activities! Proceeds support the Marine Science Center and the Friends of the Marine Science Center.



**17-18 APR 17 - 18**  
FRI-SAT @ 9 AM-8 PM

**Port Orange City Center**  
Lakeside Jazz Festival

Listen to the smooth sounds of student jazz ensembles at the 26th annual Lakeside Jazz Festival at the City Center in Port Orange. The two-day lineup features dozens of jazz bands representing schools throughout Florida as well as college ensembles. [LakesideJazzFestival.org](https://LakesideJazzFestival.org) for schedule.



**25-26 APR 25 - 26**  
SAT - SUN

**Throughout Downtown DeLand**  
DeLand Yoga Fest

DeLand Yoga Fest brings 27 instructors, 38 classes, and two full days of yoga and wellness to 10 locations in historic downtown DeLand. For schedule information and ticket options including daily and full weekend passes, visit [DeLandYogaFest.com](https://DeLandYogaFest.com)



**3 SUN MAY 3**  
11 AM - 3 PM

**Brannon Center, NSB**  
Volusia Senior Expo

Join us at the Brannon Center for a day filled with education and fun. This event is designed to connect seniors and caregivers with valuable resources, services, and activities to help them stay healthy, happy, and informed. Enjoy FREE admission, activities, and refreshments!



**11 SAT APR 11**  
9 AM - 12 PM  
**NSB Sports Complex - Flex Field**  
2335 Sunset Drive - NSB 32168

**The Event 2026 - All Ages Field Day**

The Event 2026 is a family-friendly community sports competition benefiting local youth athletics, featuring a special appearance by SeaWorld Orlando's Tom the Mime competing in the games and taking photos with fans. Adults (16+): \$30 Kids (15 and under): \$10 [Table2Events.com](http://Table2Events.com)

Featuring **Tom the Mime**


GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!



**17-26 APR 17 - 26** (+)  
Schedule on page 16!  
**Throughout Volusia County**

**Jeep Beach 2026**

Save the date for the largest Jeep-only charity event featuring parties, fireworks and obstacle courses! Visit [JeepBeach.com](http://JeepBeach.com) for details. Turn to pg. 16 for full schedule!



**25 SAT APR 25**  
10 AM - 1 PM  
**Hawks Park, Edgewater**

**EDGEFest Earth Day Festival**

The festivities will include a free tree and seed giveaway, butterfly garden, nature inspired arts and crafts, live music, vendors and food as well as fun activities and games.



**5 SUN MAY 5**  
1 - 5 PM  
**Flagler Avenue, NSB**

**NSB Taco Challenge**

Like other food challenges along Flagler Avenue, The Taco Challenge guests will use their tasting passports to visit the host sites and taste mini tacos prepared in multiple different ways. Tickets available at [TacoChallenge2026.eventbrite.com](http://TacoChallenge2026.eventbrite.com).



**11 SAT APR 11**  
12 - 4 PM  
**West Indiana Ave, DeLand**

**Taste of DeLand**

Brace your taste buds for an afternoon of food sampling from over 20 local restaurants & caterers in Downtown DeLand. Attendees can sample the fare of local restaurants and caterers, one bite at a time. Tickets include admission and tastings at each of the restaurant booths. Purchase at [MainstreetDeLand.org](http://MainstreetDeLand.org).



**18-19 APR 18 - 19** (+)  
SAT-SUN @ 10 AM-5 PM  
**Rockefeller Gardens, Ormond Beach**

**Ormond Beach Celtic Festival**

Saturate your senses in the sights, sounds, and tastes of Celtic heritage with folk music, food, and fun from the seven Celtic Nations and beyond. Tickets @ [BestOfDaytona.com](http://BestOfDaytona.com) - \$12 per day, or \$18 for two-days (advance purchase only).



**25 SAT APR 25**  
11 AM - 8 PM  
**Mary McLeod Bethune Blvd., Daytona**

**Crab and Seafood Festival**


Attendees at Daytona Beach's Crab & Seafood Festival can enjoy a variety of delicious dishes at this festival on Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Boulevard between Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Charles Street. Hosted by Zone 6 City Commissioner Paula R. Reed, the family-friendly festival will feature live music, local vendors and a Kids Zone.




**7-10 MAY 7 - 10** (+)  
THU - SUN  
**Daytona International Speedway**

**Welcome to Rockville**

Join us for 4 non-stop days of music, on 5 stages, with a mind-blowing roster of 150+ bands! Passes are on sale NOW at [WelcomeToRockville.com](http://WelcomeToRockville.com).



# Get Hands-On & Feet-Wet!

## Marine Discovery Center's SUMMER ADVENTURE CAMPS

presented by **AdventHealth**




**Marine Discovery CENTER**

### LEARN MORE!

June 1-August 7, 2026

[MarineDiscoveryCenter.org/Summer-Camps](http://MarineDiscoveryCenter.org/Summer-Camps)

## APRIL

- 4/1 ESH & SCHIEF  
4/2 TBD  
4/3 COSMIC JAM  
4/4 TRAE PIERCE &  
THE T'STONES  
4/5 TBD  
4/6 TBD  
4/7 HEAVY POCKET  
4/8 YACHT ROCK  
4/9 SOBER CAFÉ  
4/10 CRASHROCKET  
4/11 SOBER CAFÉ/  
SUPRERVILLAINS  
4/12 TBD  
4/13 TBD  
4/14 JENSEY  
4/15 ESH & SCHIEF  
4/16 ZACH DENBY  
4/17 STEREO FM  
4/18 DIAMOND DIXIE  
4/19 TBD  
4/20 TBD  
4/21 HEAVY POCKET  
4/22 TBD  
4/23 CAPTAIN  
MIDNIGHT  
4/24 THE CLICK  
4/25 PAPA WHEELIE  
4/26 ZACH DENBY  
4/27 TBD  
4/28 JENSEY  
4/29 ESH & SCHIEF  
4/30 TRAE PIERCE &  
THE T'STONES



**LIVE MUSIC | FOOD | FULL BAR**  
**690 E 3RD AVE, NSB, FL 32169**

**The  
Supervillains**

**SATURDAY APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup> AT 8:30PM**

SUPPORT FROM:  **\$5 IN ADVANCE  
\$10 DAY OF SHOW**

690 E. 3<sup>RD</sup> AVENUE | NEW SMRYNA BEACH, FL  
TICKETS ON EVENTBRITE



**RESERVE A TABLE FOR  
OUR SHOWS  
SCAN OR GO TO**

<https://bit.ly/beachsideshows>

**ALL SHOWS  
MUSIC STARTS AT 8:30PM,  
UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED NO  
COVER\* | 21+**

# Bermuda, *Please*

## Longer & Better: Why Bermuda Shorts Are Back

**Girls... we're not doing tiny shorts right now. We're doing Bermuda. It's cleaner. It's cooler. It's that effortless "I didn't try, but I still ate" energy.**

Longer length, right above the knee. A little relaxed, a little tailored. It just makes everything look more intentional. Even Vogue is leaning into longer hemlines and sharp tailoring. The vibe has shifted. It's not about showing more — it's about styling better.

The best part is how easy it is.

Throw on a blazer and you look expensive.

Tank and flats, and you're off-duty.

Heels if you want to switch it up.

And Bermuda shorts with cowboy boots... yeah, that's the one.

They actually make sense, too. Florida heat, but still put together. Nothing tight, nothing doing the most. Just clean, effortless, done.

Think mid- to high-rise, relaxed fit, fabrics that hold their shape. Denim, linen, tailored. Keep it simple.

You don't need to show more to stand out.

You just need to style it better.

### GET THE LOOK

Bermuda shorts — TikTok Shop

Boots — Jeffrey Campbell

Sunnies — Quay

Top — Zara

Belt — Thrifted Miami

Hat — Custom made

Purse — Nordstrom Rack

Stylist/Blog/Photo: Danielle Napolitano | @daniellenapolitano

Model: Stephanie Gonçalves | TikTok @stephiemariegee12



### 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

# Florida *or Bust*

## A Fresh Take on a Local Favorite: Brevard Zoo After Dark



**Seeing a familiar place in a completely new way is always a treat, and this spring, Brevard Zoo offers exactly that with its limited-time Illumi-Nature Festival. After dark, the zoo transforms into a glowing, immersive experience where wildlife, art, and imagination come together across winding pathways and quiet corners.**

Avery and I turned our visit into a girls' night out, arriving right as the gates opened at 7 PM. With the last light of day still hanging in the sky, the zoo felt different from the start. The lions announced themselves before we even made it inside, their roars echoing across the grounds, and we headed straight for the Africa trail to catch them before they settled in for the night.

As dusk gave way to darkness, the transformation unfolded. More than 1,000 larger-than-life illuminated sculptures, powered by over 500,000 lights, came to life throughout the zoo. Created by LuminoCity Festival, the New York-based company known for its immersive installations, Illumi-Nature spans 10 acres of glowing scenes that feel both playful and thoughtfully placed.

What stands out most is how naturally the displays fit into the landscape. Lantern animals appear alongside real habitats, and themed areas - like the "Glowing Gardens" tucked off the Wild Florida boardwalk - offer access to spaces many visitors might not otherwise explore. It encourages a slower pace, where wandering becomes part of the experience.

Avery and I took our time, moving from one scene to the next and revisiting our favorite spots. Towering flowers with expressive faces created a Wonderland-style setting, while mythical creatures and illuminated wildlife added layers of surprise around every turn. Photo opportunities are everywhere, with plenty of Insta-worthy moments and spots to capture memories.

The animals, of course, still have their moments. Later in the evening, we watched a bobcat quietly stalk and pounce on lizards in the dim light and listened to owls call to each other. If seeing the animals is a priority, it's worth pairing Illumi-Nature tickets with daytime zoo admission.



*Illumi-Nature at Brevard Zoo runs select Thursday through Sunday evenings April 2 through May 10, from 7–10 PM, featuring more than 1,000 illuminated sculptures and over 500,000 lights across 10 acres of the zoo. Guests can explore glowing displays, themed pathways, and enjoy specialty food and drinks throughout the event.*

The nighttime experience offers a unique perspective, but combining both gives you the full picture.

Food is part of the fun, too! The festival features a spring-inspired menu with items like hatch green chili flautas (pictured below), Memphis chicken sandwiches, and sweet treats. Avery went straight for the confetti bundt cake topped with strawberries and cream, while I can confirm the flautas are worth the visit to the snack window.



Photo by Brevard Zoo

Held select Thursday through Sunday evenings from April 2 through May 10, Illumi-Nature also includes themed nights like Once Upon A Night (May 2) for families and the adults-only Enchanted Evening (May 8).

Whether you're planning a date night or bringing the whole family along, it's a fresh way to experience a local favorite - one that feels entirely new after the sun goes down.

**ILLUMI-NATURE FESTIVAL @ BREVARD ZOO**  
8225 N Wickham Rd, Melbourne, FL 32940  
(321) 254-9453 | BrevardZoo.org

Thursday - Sunday, April 2 - May 10 | 7-10 PM  
(check schedule)

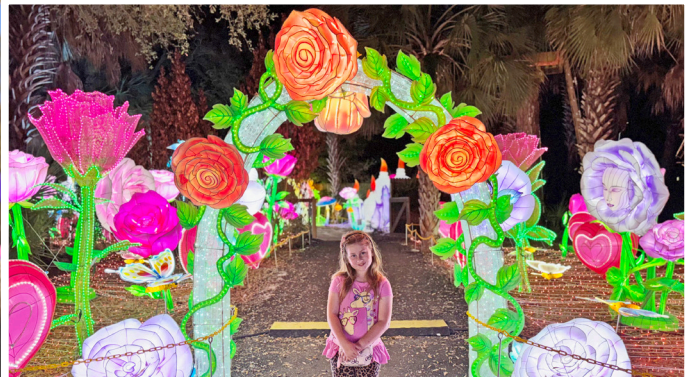
\$35 per person (festival ticket only, does not include regular zoo admission)



**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





# Leadership Academy

Preparing Local Professionals to Shape the Future of New Smyrna Beach

**Leading in a town like New Smyrna Beach is not about titles or status. It is about caring enough to show up for the community we all love.**

Here on our stretch of the coast, we are more than colleagues. We see each other at the Brannon Center, in education classes, at business meetings, and out at local events. That sense of connection is what makes the Leadership Academy so special. It is designed for members who want to take their local knowledge, relationships, and passion for this profession to the next level.

Over eight weeks, participants get an inside look at how our industry works, from Stellar MLS and legislative issues affecting Florida real estate to the professional standards and ethics that help keep our industry strong. Along the way, they also get the chance to connect directly with influential leaders, including Florida Realtors® leadership and local community partners such as the Chamber and Habitat for Humanity.

The goal of the academy is simple: to help members build the skills, confidence, and relationships needed to lead. In a coastal market that is always evolving, strong leadership matters. We need people who care about this profession, this community, and the future of New Smyrna Beach.

Whether you are a seasoned professional or just beginning to step into leadership, the Leadership Academy offers a place to grow. It is about more than business. It is about finding your voice, building meaningful connections, and helping shape the future of the place we call home.



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April 17-26



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**Across**

- 1. College figs.
- 5. Lame walk
- 9. Does a moviemaking job
- 14. "That hurts!"
- 15. Genealogist's diagram
- 16. Something more
- 17. Barred bar
- 19. Fruity sodas
- 20. Austrian composer
- 21. Brief
- 23. Aurora, to the Greeks
- 25. Grows molars
- 30. Famed ante-bellum orator who preceded Lincoln at Gettysburg
- 33. Honor roll stat
- 35. Egg on
- 36. Lash in the west
- 37. Squishy sports brand
- 39. Testifier's place
- 42. Zero
- 43. "Tomorrow" musical
- 45. "Stop \_\_\_\_ you've heard this one"
- 47. Currency of Albania
- 48. In need of loosening up
- 52. Meanspirited
- 53. Suffix for beat or peace
- 54. Saudis and Omanis
- 57. Unenthusiastic, as a reaction
- 61. Kind of duty
- 65. Wrinkle
- 67. Charming and confident
- 68. Airport for Air France
- 69. Annika Sorenstam grp.
- 70. Puts out of work
- 71. "Wake \_\_\_\_ Before You Go-Go" (Wham! hit)
- 72. Bring forth, as lambs

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17				18						19				
20						21			22					
			23		24		25				26	27	28	29
			30				31	32						
33	34			35						36				
37			38		39			40	41		42			
43				44			45			46		47		
48					49	50					51			
52									53					
				54			55	56		57		58	59	60
61	62	63	64			65			66					
67						68					69			
70						71					72			

**Down**

- 1. "Oh my \_\_\_\_!"
- 2. Insect stage
- 3. \_\_\_\_-deucey (backgammon kin)
- 4. Under a tree, say
- 5. AT&T rival, once
- 6. Levin, et al.
- 7. Net fabric
- 8. Mexican cactus
- 9. Elegantly stylish
- 10. Ice climber's tool
- 11. Water depth (abbr.)
- 12. Part of TGIF (abbr.)
- 13. Carrier to Stockholm
- 18. Is aware of
- 22. Rel. title
- 24. Takes away energy
- 26. Script start?
- 27. "Hark! The \_\_\_\_ Angels Sing"
- 28. Technique-teaching composition
- 29. Hunk of meat
- 30. "The old-fashioned way" to make money, in an old ad
- 31. Road hazard
- 32. Comedy's counterpart
- 33. Grind, as the teeth
- 34. Gon beginner
- 38. Piccolo kin
- 40. Col. neighbor
- 41. Singer Celine
- 44. Rubs out
- 46. Country star Hill
- 49. Ear (prefix)
- 50. Ski event
- 51. "Trapped in the Closet" composer
- 55. Word with handed or faced
- 56. "Star Trek" crewman
- 58. Meerschaum
- 59. "Young Frankenstein" role
- 60. College VIP
- 61. "\_\_\_\_: Miami" (David Caruso series)
- 62. Birth control device, for short
- 63. Actor Kilmer
- 64. "\_\_\_\_ Got a Gal in Kalamazoo"
- 66. Hoodwink

**MARCH 2026 ANSWERS**

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

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

# West Volusia

## 10 Essential Stops Between Orlando and Daytona Beach

Between the neon glow of Orlando and the high-speed hum of Daytona Beach lies West Volusia County, a quieter corner of Florida where time slows down. Whether drifting through the stillness of a natural spring or strolling a brick-lined Main Street, the region offers something increasingly rare: space to explore at your own pace.

- 1. Get your “Wings on” on a Mural Trail**  
This whimsical mural collection by artist Erica Group doubles as a self-guided tour through West Volusia, connecting places like Barberville Pioneer Settlement and Cassadaga. Start with the original DeLand Wings and grab a map at the Visitor Center.
- 2. Wander the Streets of Downtown DeLand**  
Historic charm meets modern energy with boutiques, galleries, breweries, and farm-to-table dining, all anchored by live theater and museums.
- 3. Step Into Architectural History at Stetson Mansion and Beyond**  
Tour the 1886 Stetson Mansion, then explore DeBary Hall or the DeLand House Museum for a deeper look at local heritage.
- 4. Sip Your Way Along the CoolCraft Beverage Trail**  
Follow this curated trail of breweries, wineries, and coffee spots, with seasonal events like CoolCraft Summer adding extra flavor.
- 5. Discover an Abundance of Natural Springs**  
Blue Spring State Park draws winter manatees, while DeLeon Springs offers swimming and pancakes at the Old Sugar Mill. Gemini and Green Springs provide quieter escapes.
- 6. Take Flight at Skydive DeLand**  
One of the world’s premier drop zones, offering tandem jumps, advanced training, or simply a great view from nearby restaurants.
- 7. Experience the Mystique of Cassadaga Spiritualist Camp**  
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- 8. Encounter Untamed Wildlife**  
Visit Lyonia Preserve for Florida scrub jays or explore Lake Woodruff National Wildlife Refuge’s vast wetlands and birdlife.
- 9. Navigate the Regional Bike Trails**  
The Spring to Spring Trail connects multiple parks and feeds into the larger St. Johns River to Sea Loop.
- 10. Cruise the St. Johns River**  
Rent a houseboat, take a guided eco tour, or paddle by kayak or board along Florida’s only American Heritage River.



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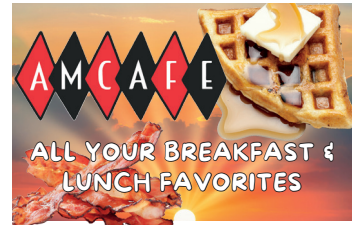


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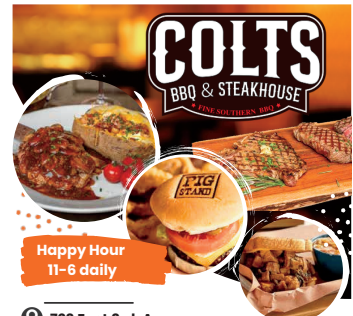
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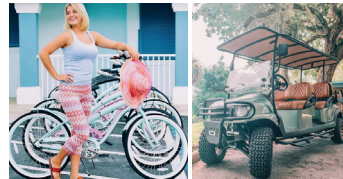
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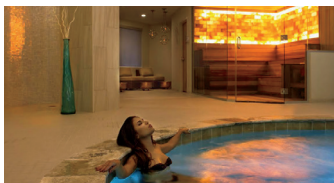
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# The Boat Coach

## The Road Less Traveled on the St. Johns River

**The poem “The Road Not Taken” by Robert Frost ends with the iconic line, “Two roads diverged in a wood, and I — I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference.” It is less about individualism and more about the weight of making choices.**

Almost two decades ago, I was commissioned as a freelance writer by Bonnier Publishing to do a story on the St. Johns River aboard a Regal 35 Express. It was published in *Boating Magazine*. At that time, I had very little experience on the St. Johns River, so my wife and I, along with our new puppy, stuck to the main channel — a sensible decision.

Since then, we’ve only ventured onto the river to visit Lake Beresford Yacht Club or cool off in Silver Glen Springs. Both destinations sit just off the main channel.

Recently, I had the opportunity to participate as a captain on two Freedom Boat Club Captain’s Adventure Days led by Captain Ashley J. Barnett, a highly experienced captain. The first was last fall, with five boats filled with club members. We left from Boat Tree Marina at the northwest end of Lake Monroe and headed north.

Much of the St. Johns feels like a throwback to the 1800s, when steamboats made the river a popular winter destination for northerners. By the 1860s, several steamers were making weekly trips from Charleston and Savannah to Jacksonville and Palatka, and farther south to Lake Monroe. The shoreline is lined with cypress, scrub palms and water hyacinth, teeming with wildlife including alligators, deer, turtles and manatees.

As we headed north, Captain Ashley diverted at marker 80 from the main channel into a side route known as Bird House Alley. This narrow “run” connects the St. Johns River to the Hontoon Dead River. Along the route, dozens of decorated, handmade birdhouses hang from overhead branches. The sight leaves you wondering who placed them there — and why — visible only to those who know where to look.

We continued north along the Hontoon Dead River to Hontoon Island State Park, then back up the St. Johns River to St. Johns River Grille for lunch. I was so taken by the experience that the



*Leaving the main channel behind changed everything. The river opened up into places we didn't know existed, full of wildlife and quiet stretches you can't reach by accident. It's a different side of the St. Johns — one worth finding.*

very next day I brought my wife, Louise, my son, Brandt, and our new puppy back to see it for themselves.

The latest Captain's Adventure Day led by Captain Ashley took us north to Blue Spring State Park to see the annual manatee gathering. In winter, the St. Johns River can drop to 59 degrees or lower, while the spring remains a constant 72 degrees, drawing manatees in large numbers.



Once again, we stopped for lunch at St. Johns River Grille. Throughout the day, the captains kept a close eye on the weather using various apps — mine being MyRadar Pro. By 2 p.m., it was clear the predicted storms were moving in. As boats began to depart, those positioned on the outside pulled out first. Captain Ashley mentioned she knew alternate routes that would allow us to move quickly. Just 100 yards from the dock, the rain hit hard.

Passengers huddled under the Bimini top, wrapped in whatever they could find — towels, jackets, even trash bags. The route she navigated twisted through narrow channels I wouldn't be able to retrace myself. After nearly two hours in steady rain, we made it back to Boat Tree Marina.

Everyone on board seemed to enjoy the adventure and was ready to keep going. I, however, was glad to be out of the rain.

Captain Ashley later offered to show me even more of the St. Johns River — an offer I plan to take her up on. If you're looking to experience a different side of the river, I highly recommend Captain Ashley J. Barnett. She'll take you down the one less traveled by — and that just might make all the difference. You can find Captain Ashley J. Barnett on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.



**CAPTAIN MARK KELLUM**  
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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.

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# Backwater *Fishing* Report

Best Days to Fish:

April: 1-3, 8-9, 14-19, 23-25, 30



As March kicked off with some amazing weather, as usual, the fishing was on fire and the bite was hotter than ever! I had just returned from a surf photo/video shoot in Barbados when I had two of my comedian friends come to town for a week of content production for an upcoming comedy tour, "The Tropical Depression Tour." Fishing was the top priority for these jokesters, and it was nothing less than stellar conditions!

Kim Congdon (@kimcongdon) and Uncle Lazer (@uncle\_lazer) were ready to take on the backwaters, navigating to some of my local secret spots on my fleet of paddleboards. Max Bressan was our main cinematographer for the week and had no shortage of laughs along the way!

Our first day was filled with numerous redfish and baby bull shark catches, along with a few sheepshead and mangrove snappers. We utilized live shrimp and made a few casts with artificial. The bite was slow at the start, but once the tide started to flow, the fish were chomping! Uncle Lazer is a Texan and grew up fishing redfish, so he was no stranger to this species. Kim, who loves fishing and has a father who is a professional fisherman, was having a blast!

Unfortunately, Uncle Lazer didn't put his sunscreen on and was burned to a crisp with a bad case of sun poisoning, which briefly changed his name to Uncle Lobster.

On day four, we were greeted with a beautiful day with Ryan, owner of IROC Oysters, and he took us to his lease for some oyster sampling and then guided us to a nearby zone that was filled with snook. This was one for the record book, as we couldn't keep those sideliners off our hooks. We only utilized artificial this day, and it was so good that Kim caught a solid black drum on a Erie Peeples Nasty Strike paddle tail.



**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.



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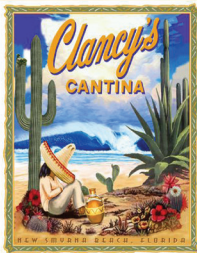
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Date	High				Low				☀️	☾	Moon	
	AM	ft	PM	ft	AM	ft	PM	ft				
1	Wed	8:43	3.0	9:06	3.4	2:32	-0.1	2:40	-0.1	7:12	7:41	☉
2	Thu	9:22	2.9	9:45	3.4	3:14	-0.1	3:14	-0.1	7:11	7:42	☉
3	Fri	10:00	2.8	10:22	3.4	3:54	0.0	3:46	0.0	7:10	7:43	☉
4	Sat	10:36	2.6	10:59	3.3	4:32	0.1	4:18	0.1	7:09	7:43	☉
5	Sun	11:13	2.5	11:36	3.2	5:12	0.3	4:53	0.2	7:08	7:44	☉
6	Mon	11:50	2.4			5:56	0.4	5:34	0.3	7:07	7:44	☉
7	Tue	12:17	3.1	12:32	2.3	6:46	0.5	6:23	0.4	7:06	7:45	☉
8	Wed	1:02	2.9	1:19	2.2	7:39	0.6	7:19	0.5	7:04	7:45	☉
9	Thu	1:54	2.8	2:14	2.2	8:31	0.7	8:16	0.5	7:03	7:46	☉
10	Fri	2:53	2.8	3:20	2.2	9:24	0.7	9:15	0.5	7:02	7:47	☉
11	Sat	3:58	2.8	4:28	2.3	10:17	0.6	10:15	0.5	7:01	7:47	☉
12	Sun	4:58	2.8	5:26	2.5	11:07	0.5	11:15	0.4	7:00	7:48	☉
13	Mon	5:49	2.9	6:15	2.8	11:53	0.3			6:59	7:48	☉
14	Tue	6:35	3.0	7:01	3.1	12:12	0.2	12:37	0.1	6:58	7:49	☉
15	Wed	7:21	3.0	7:47	3.4	1:05	0.0	1:19	-0.1	6:57	7:49	☉
16	Thu	8:07	3.0	8:34	3.7	1:57	-0.1	2:01	-0.3	6:56	7:50	☉
17	Fri	8:55	3.0	9:21	3.8	2:47	-0.2	2:44	-0.4	6:55	7:51	☉
18	Sat	9:44	3.0	10:10	3.9	3:36	-0.3	3:29	-0.4	6:54	7:51	☉
19	Sun	10:33	2.9	11:00	3.9	4:27	-0.2	4:16	-0.4	6:53	7:52	☉
20	Mon	11:24	2.8	11:54	3.8	5:21	-0.1	5:09	-0.3	6:52	7:52	☉
21	Tue			12:20	2.7	6:23	0.0	6:10	-0.2	6:51	7:53	☉
22	Wed	12:53	3.6	1:21	2.6	7:27	0.1	7:18	0.0	6:50	7:54	☉
23	Thu	1:55	3.4	2:26	2.6	8:29	0.2	8:25	0.1	6:49	7:54	☉
24	Fri	3:00	3.3	3:35	2.7	9:28	0.2	9:31	0.1	6:48	7:55	☉
25	Sat	4:07	3.1	4:41	2.8	10:24	0.2	10:38	0.2	6:47	7:55	☉
26	Sun	5:07	3.0	5:39	3.0	11:17	0.1	11:40	0.2	6:46	7:56	☉
27	Mon	5:59	2.9	6:29	3.2			12:05	0.1	6:45	7:57	☉
28	Tue	6:46	2.8	7:15	3.3	12:37	0.2	12:47	0.0	6:44	7:57	☉
29	Wed	7:30	2.7	7:58	3.4	1:29	0.1	1:27	0.0	6:43	7:58	☉
30	Thu	8:12	2.7	8:39	3.5	2:15	0.1	2:03	0.0	6:42	7:59	☉

BIENVENIDOS

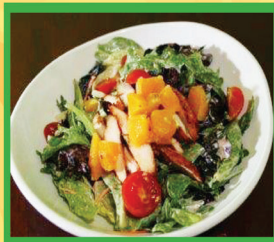


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Sun. 11am-10pm



Tues. 11am-9pm  
Wed. 11am-9pm  
Thur. - Sun. 11am-9pm

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THURSDAY

**GUNS N' ROSES**

**GODSMACK**

**ALICE COOPER**

**Black Label Society**

JASON BONHAM'S LED ZEPPELIN EVENING  
BUCKCHERRY  
FOZZY

FRIDAY

**FOO FIGHTERS**

**THE OFFSPRING**

**POISON**

**THE WIRNING**

EAGLES OF DEATH METAL  
WINONA FIGHTER  
PLATINUM MOON

SATURDAY

**SLAYER**

**MOTIONLESS IN WHITE**

**HIGHLY SUSPECT**

**BLACK VEIL BRIDS**

THE PLOT IN YOU  
MAGNOLIA PARK  
AMIRA ELFEKY

SUNDAY

**MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE**

**RISE AGAINST**

**ALL TIME LOW**

**COHEED AND CAMBRIA**

DANCE GAVIN DANCE  
L.S. DUNES  
THE ATARIS

**DEATH PUNCH**

**SLIPKNOT**

**AMON AMARTH**

**BEHEMOTH**

IN FLAMES  
ALL THAT REMAINS

**TURNSTILE**

**Parliament**  
ONLY US APPEARANCE

**HOLLYWOOD UNDEAD**

**TOM MORELLO**

FAILURE  
SICK PUPPIES  
VIOLENT VIRA

**breaking benjamin**

**lamb of god**

**FLYLEAF**  
with LACEY STORM

**STARSET**

VELAWOLF  
MEMPHIS MAY FIRE  
RED

**A DAY TO REMEMBER**

**YELLOWCARD**

**SLEEPING SIRENS**

**UNDEROATH**

BLESSTHEFALL  
FROM FIRST TO LAST  
VOILA

**ICE NINE KILLS**

**ATREVIJ**

CATCH YOUR BREATH  
CROWN THE EMPIRE  
HOLDING ABSENCE  
THE WORD ALIVE  
FAME ON FIRE  
ARCHERS

**Iron Maiden**

**SLAYER**

CHELSEA GRIN  
ALPHA WOLF  
SIGNS OF THE SWARM  
DISEMBODED TYRANT  
NOT ENOUGH SPACE  
SNUFFED ON SIGHT

**SIMPLE PLAN**

**SWITCHFOOT**

PLAIN WHITE T'S  
GYM CLASS HEROES  
3OH!3  
BREATHE CAROLINA  
THE READY SET  
FRAMING HANLEY

**SLAYER**

**WHITECHAIR**

THY ART IS MURDER  
BRAND OF SACRIFICE  
CARNIFEX  
BODYSNATCHER  
DISTANT  
NETHERWALKER

**Methadone**

**TABLE OF MANN**

NAPALM DEATH  
DEICIDE  
DEATH ANGEL  
SUFFOCATION  
IMMOLATION  
CASTLE RAT

**Zakk Sabbath**

**SUICIDAL TENDENCIES**

KREATOR  
CARCASS  
DYING FETUS  
FLESHGOD APOCALYPSE  
CATTLE DECAPITATION  
SPIRITWORLD

**AVATAR**

**DragonForce**

APOCALYPTICA  
DEVILDRIVER  
WIND ROSE  
NEKROGOBLIKON  
PSYCHOSTICK  
GALACTIC EMPIRE

**ARCHITECTS**

**POLARIS**

THROWN  
MAKE THEM SUFFER  
THORNHILL  
HOUSE OF PROTECTION  
JILUKA  
WOLVES AT THE GATE

**MAYDAY PARADE**

**STORY OF THE YEAR**

THE WONDER YEARS  
STATE CHAMPS  
WE THE KINGS  
SENSES FAIL  
AMBERLIN  
FOUR YEAR STRONG  
THE PARADOX

**SEVENDUST**

**STATIEX**

SALIVA  
DROWNING POOL  
DOPE  
NONPOINT  
EGYPT CENTRAL  
SPINESHANK  
PRIMER 55

**BADFLOWER**

**The Home Team**

PALAYE ROYALE  
BIFFY CLYRD  
10 YEARS  
DEAD POET SOCIETY  
THE HAUNT  
COLORBLIND  
IF NOT FOR ME

**SEPULTURA**

**COAL chamber**

HATEBREED  
DEMON HUNTER  
BLOODYWOOD  
ILL NINO  
INFECTED RAIN  
LADRONES  
KILL THE ROBOT

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