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November 2026

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Be Good to Yourself.

This is a time to think about the people who show up when we need them. Thanksgiving helps us appreciate the folks we include in our lives. After the big dining events are over, our lives go on.

We put family first, volunteer, work, run errands and keep going. Somewhere while we're in the middle of it, our own appointments get postponed, exercise slips off the radar and rest becomes optional. Taking care of yourself isn't selfish. It's practical. Give yourself permission to slow down when you need to.

In this issue, you'll meet 99-year-old Rudolph McKissick, Sr., a local spiritual leader whose life is an example of dedication. Our travel feature shows options for those with no family at the table this year. You'll also uncover interesting things to do to keep your mind active as the year winds down.

There's no need for an elaborate resolution list as we move to 2027. Start with a few smart choices. Make your health a priority, and treat others the way you want to be treated.

To our readers and marketing partners, thank you for being part of *First Coast Senior Living*. Your support makes it possible for us to share information, introduce neighbors and spotlight people and places that make our community special. Happy Thanksgiving!



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Active After 50 Expo Happens Monday, November 30th



Jacksonville, get ready for an Active After 50 Expo unlike any other! The annual event takes place Monday, November 30, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Florida Blue Conference Center.

Admission is FREE, but advance registration is required. Guests can explore health and wellness vendors, discover products and services for life after 50, enjoy entertainment and enter drawings for fabulous raffle prizes every 30 minutes. What's up for grabs? Five-star resort weekends, luggage, bicycles and plenty of other surprises.

Attendees will enjoy a complimentary gourmet buffet meal while taking in activity, information and fun.

In partnership with Feeding Northeast Florida, Active After 50 Expo Jacksonville is hosting a holiday food drive to help stock food pantries serving older adults and families throughout our region. Guests are encouraged to bring nonperishable food donations. Every can, box and bag makes a difference.

"Food insecurity affects people in every community, including older adults who may be quietly struggling to make ends meet. Community partnerships like this help us reach more neighbors with the nutritious food they need. We are grateful to everyone who gives and participates," says Jackie Culver, Senior Vice President of Philanthropy for Feeding Northeast Florida.

Bring a friend, bring your appetite, and don't forget to bring your food donation.

Active After 50 Expo Jacksonville
Monday, November 30 • 10 AM – 1 PM
FLORIDA BLUE CONFERENCE CENTER
Admission is FREE. Advance registration required for this event only at **ActiveAfter50Expo.com.**
Celebrate life after 50 and give back to the community!

By Emily Sharpe

Baptist Health Expands Hospital at Home Program



Janice Carrier received hospital level care in the comfort of her home.

Adult patients at Baptist Medical Center South who require hospital-level care but are stable enough to be treated safely at home may now have an opportunity to transfer to the Baptist Hospital at Home program. The clinical service, which brings 24/7 inpatient care into the comfort and convenience of patients' homes, is now being offered at Baptist South following its successful launch at Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville in February.

For patient Janice Carrier, the expansion came at the perfect time. After being treated for an infection at Baptist South for eight days, she was able to transfer into the Baptist Hospital at Home program and continue receiving antibiotic treatment in the comfort of her own home. While still under hospital care, Carrier was monitored by a clinical team of doctors, nurses, paramedics and case managers who ensured she continued to receive her treatment under close supervision until her infection was gone and she was discharged from the program a week later.

"It was a miracle. It really was," said Carrier, 89, who had already been in the hospital twice previously in the past five months. "Going home was a dream. I was still not myself from being on antibiotics, but to be at home with familiar surroundings just made me feel better."

24/7 Care And Services

Designed for hospitalized adults with needs that require hospital-level care, the program supports patients who are clinically stable to recover at home with close monitoring by a dedicated care team of doctors, 24/7 nurses and community paramedics. Examples of conditions people may be treated for include pneumonia, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), cellulitis and urinary tract infections (UTIs), among many others.

"We are pleased we've been able to provide expert hospital-level care to so many patients in the comfort and the convenience of their own home and to expand the program to more patients in Northeast Florida," said Alison Bartfield, MD, medical director of Baptist Physician Partners Senior Strategy and Baptist Hospital at Home. "We know research shows that when home recovery is clinically appropriate, many patients experience positive outcomes and there are fewer readmissions to the hospital following care."

Baptist Hospital at Home patients have access to many of the same inpatient medical services available at Baptist Health hospitals.

Kyle W. Dorsey, FACHE, hospital president of Baptist South said, "Our patients can focus on healing at home, surrounded by the people they love, with the trusted care and support they expect from Baptist Health."

Baptist Health will continue to evaluate the program and consider opportunities to expand it to additional locations.



Baptist Health medical professionals come directly to your home.

By Miriam Stansbury

10 Songs That Feed The Soul

From Toto to Louis Armstrong



Music and divinity have shared a dance floor for centuries. Sometimes it's a hymn that takes us back to Sunday mornings with our parents. Other times, it's a rock anthem, an R&B classic or a song that makes us stop and think about something bigger than ourselves.

Here are 10 tracks to take you back this Thanksgiving season.

1. "99" — Toto (1979)

This soft-rock favorite, inspired by the film THX 1138, has a melody and a number that fits this month's theme. The song is about a relationship falling apart, proving that even a catchy tune with 99 in the title can leave us thinking about life's complicated turns.

2. "Amazing Grace" — Traditional hymn

Written by John Newton in the 18th century, this hymn has become a musical symbol of redemption, and second chances. Its message crosses generations and reaches beyond the sanctuary.

3. "Oh Happy Day" — Edwin Hawkins Singers (1968)

With its gospel groove, this recording became an international hit. It celebrates spiritual metamorphosis with enough energy to make even a quiet listener tap a foot.

4. "People Get Ready" — The Impressions (1965)

Curtis Mayfield wrote this soul classic with spiritual imagery and a message of hope. Its invitation to prepare for a better tomorrow still resonates with listeners of all ages.

5. "Bridge Over Troubled Water" — Simon & Garfunkel (1970)

Sometimes faith arrives through another person. This Grammy-winning classic brings the comfort of having someone stand beside you when life gets difficult.

6. "What a Wonderful World" — Louis Armstrong (1967)

Armstrong's voice turns ordinary scenes, green trees, blue skies and people loving one another, into reminders that beauty can be found everyday.

7. "Let It Be" — The Beatles (1970)

Paul McCartney's dream of his late mother, Mary, was the motivation for this song offers a message of acceptance when answers are hard to find.

8. "Easy Like Sunday Morning" - The Commodores (1977)

With its fuzzed-out guitar riff and sound, this R&B hit puts thoughts of the afterlife with a beat made for turning up the volume.

9. "I Can Only Imagine" — MercyMe (1999)

This contemporary Christian hit asks what it might feel like to stand in the presence of God. Its question has touched millions of listeners, including people who don't regularly listen to Christian music.

10. "You Raise Me Up" — Josh Groban (2003)

A soaring vocal performance and a message about being lifted past our own limitations make this a natural fit for a playlist about hope and the human spirit.

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SCAM OF THE MONTH

By David Patterson

Outsmart the Jive Turkey and Make Your Giving Count



Before you open your wallet this holiday season, make sure your generosity is going to the right place.

The holidays bring out the best in people, and, unfortunately, some of the worst. While you're shopping for turkey, wrapping presents and looking for ways to help neighbors in need, scammers are busy cooking up schemes of their own.

Older adults can be especially attractive targets because fraudsters recognize that many have retirement savings, established finances and a generous desire to give back.

Know who you're supporting before you donate. Be wary of unfamiliar organizations that suddenly appear during the holidays, especially those with vague explanations of how donations will be used. Scammers may also copy the names and logos of established nonprofits or create fake websites that look surprisingly professional. Even a polished website can be a holiday disguise.

The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO) and St. Johns County Sheriff's Office (SJSO) are local resources for residents concerned about fraud. If a solicitation seems suspicious, contact law enforcement through the agencies' official websites or published phone numbers for guidance. Never rely on contact information supplied by a questionable fundraiser.

SJSO also works with Seniors vs. Crime, a volunteer-led partnership that helps educate older adults about fraud and assists with certain consumer complaints. St. Johns County residents can call 904-209-1432 for Seniors vs. Crime assistance.

Do your homework before giving. Check Florida's Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Check-A-Charity database at fdacs.gov, and look up the organization through the IRS Tax Exempt Organization Search if tax-deductible status matters to you. If you still have doubts, call the organization using a verified number, or visit its office if necessary.

Avoid pressure to donate immediately, and never give through gift cards, cryptocurrency or wire transfers. Use a traceable payment method and keep your receipt.

Santa may make a list and check it twice. Donors should, too. A few minutes of research can help confirm your money doesn't get to someone wearing a Grinch-sized grin.

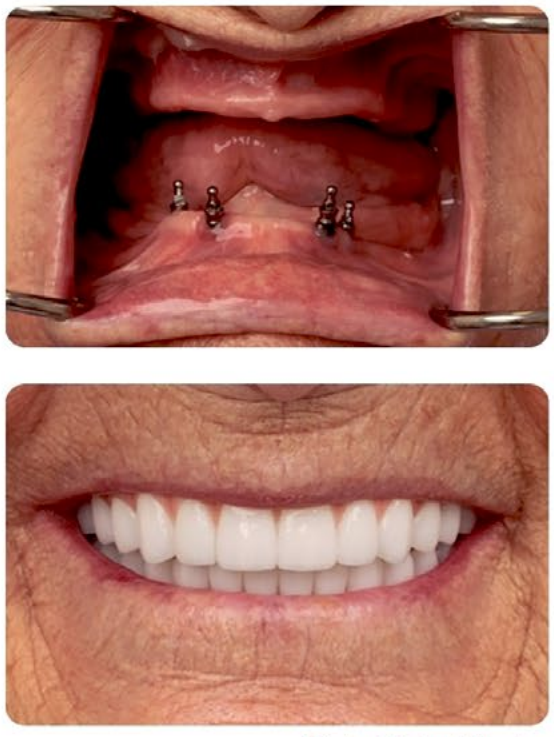
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November 27-30

CAN DO HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

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A Lifetime of Faith, Legacy & Love

At 99, Bishop Rudolph McKissick Sr. remains part of the living history of Jacksonville's Bethel Church

BY DAVID PATTERSON

For Bishop Rudolph Waldo McKissick Sr., faith was never just a Sunday morning ritual. It was a lifetime of service rooted in one church, one community and a belief that ministry means caring for people outside of the sanctuary walls.

At 99, McKissick represents a significant chapter in Jacksonville's religious and civic history. For 47 years, from 1966 until his retirement in 2014, he led Bethel Baptist Institutional Church, the historic congregation that helped shape the spiritual and social life of Jacksonville's African American community.

Bethel's history stretches back to 1838, making it Jacksonville's oldest Baptist congregation. Its story is inseparable from the history of the city's African-American community, including the struggle for ownership of the church's name and property following the Civil War.

A Calling That Began At Home

Before becoming pastor, he sang in the choir, directed the male choir and served as assistant church clerk, taught church school and worked as both an assistant deacon and a deacon.

McKissick worked as a mail carrier for 13 years. At 37, he succeeded the Rev. Robert Wilson as Bethel's leader and eventually became Bethel's longest-serving pastor.

More Than A Pulpit

During his decades of leadership, McKissick helped Bethel grow its ministries to address the needs of the whole person. His work extended into counseling, marriage enrichment, youth development, education and addiction recovery.

For McKissick, the measure of life in ministry was not just the size of a congregation or the buildings it occupied. Bethel's published pastoral biography captures his perspective: "It is a blessing to see those you've mentored play integral parts in ministry at the church and across the nation."

A Family Legacy Passed Forward

The next chapter of the McKissick legacy began before his retirement. His only son, Rudolph McKissick Jr., returned to Bethel in 1995 and joined his father in ministry. In 1999, the church installed the younger McKissick as pastor, establishing a father-and-son leadership partnership known as the "Dynamic Duo."

The younger McKissick did not initially plan to become a pastor. He studied opera at Florida State University before pursuing sacred music at Jacksonville University. His decision to enter the ministry came later, after he told his father he believed God had called him to preach.

This past October, McKissick Sr. delivered a sermon at Bethel for his 99th birthday.

Remembering Lady Estelle

Behind the ministry was Lady Estelle Williams McKissick, a distinguished educator and community leader in her own right. She devoted approximately 50 years to Duval County Public Schools, serving as a teacher, assistant principal, principal and district administrator. She also helped lead B.E.S.T. Academy, co-founded a marriage ministry with her husband and served Bethel in numerous capacities.

Estelle passed away last year on May 7, 2025, at age 96, after 62 years of marriage to Bishop McKissick Sr.

A Living Link To Jacksonville's History

At an age when many people have long since stepped away from public responsibilities, his continued service offers a reminder that a legacy is not defined by a title.

It is measured in the people served, the opportunities and the faith passed forward and the lives changed.



By Miriam Stansbury

A Turkish Welcome: Discover Istanbul

Few destinations offer the fascinating blend of history, culture and breathtaking scenery found in Turkey. Straddling Europe and Asia, this remarkable country invites travelers to explore ancient civilizations, markets, beautiful coastlines and architectural wonders.

Begin your adventure in Istanbul, Turkey's largest city, where East meets West. Visit the magnificent Hagia Sophia, the Blue Mosque and Topkapi Palace, once home to Ottoman sultans. Wander through the Grand Bazaar, one of the world's oldest covered markets, where colorful textiles, jewelry, spices and handcrafted treasures fill thousands of shops. A cruise along the Bosphorus Strait offers spectacular views of palaces, waterfront mansions and the city skyline.



The magnificent Hagia Sophia, a Byzantine basilica in Instanbul.

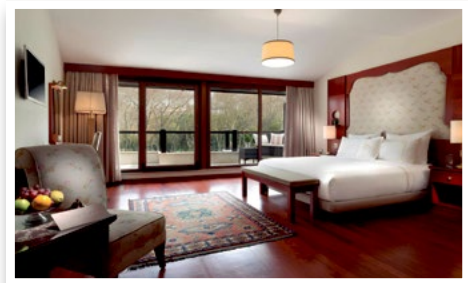
Next, travel to Cappadocia, a region famous for its unusual rock formations, underground cities and cave dwellings. Early risers can experience hot-air balloon ride over the fairy chimneys as the sun rises.

Visit Ephesus, an exceptionally preserved ancient Roman city featuring marble streets, monumental ruins and the impressive Library of Celsus. Travelers seeking relaxation can head to the Mediterranean coast, where turquoise waters, charming seaside villages and inviting beaches provide a peaceful escape.

What will a trip cost?

From Jacksonville International Airport, round-trip economy airfare to Istanbul generally requires budgeting approximately $800 to $1,400 per person, depending on the season, airline and advance booking.

Comfortable midrange hotels may cost approximately $80 to $180 per night, while upscale properties can exceed $250 nightly. Consider the Sirkeci Mansion or Seven Hills Hotel in Istanbul for convenient sightseeing and memorable views. In Cappadocia, the Museum Hotel offers a distinctive luxury experience, with cave-style accommodations and panoramic scenery.



Sirkeci Mansion deluxe room features a jacuzzi and terrace balcony.

For a seven-night trip, budget approximately $2,000 to $3,500 per person for airfare, lodging, meals, local transportation and sightseeing, assuming two people sharing a room.

Spring and fall generally offer pleasant sightseeing weather and fewer extremes of heat than midsummer.

Turkey provides travelers with exceptional experiences, from sipping Turkish tea beside the Bosphorus to exploring ancient ruins and watching colorful balloons float above Cappadocia. For those seeking a destination rich in culture, history and natural beauty, Turkey deserves a place on the bucket list.

Travel costs are estimates, not live quotes. Prices vary by travel dates and availability.



Panoramic view of balloons over rock formations in Cappadocia.



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By David Patterson

The Turkey Bowl. Without Gravy.

There are two kinds of people on Thanksgiving: those who spend the afternoon watching football and those who fall asleep watching football. This year, why not introduce a third option? Get everybody outside and create your own Turkey Bowl.

Forget the professional athletes and million-dollar stadiums. All you need is a some space, a little sunshine and a family willing to trade the remote control for a friendly competition.

Cornhole: The Beanbag Showdown



Nothing says family competition quite like a pair of cornhole boards. Grandparents versus grandchildren, cousins against cousins or the in-laws against everybody else. Tossing bags, retrieving them and walking back and forth gets everyone moving. It's a family holiday, not the cornhole championships. Nobody needs to take a beanbag victory too seriously.

The Great Thanksgiving Scavenger Hunt

Hide mini pumpkins, plastic turkeys, and other holiday treasures around the yard. Divide into teams and send everyone searching. You can guarantee walking, bending, reaching and plenty of laughter. Make the final prize something worth finding.



Pickleball: Let the Games Begin



If your family has a few paddles and access to a court, it's time for a Thanksgiving tournament. Pickleball delivers a combination of movement and friendly rivalry. Beginners are welcome, but beware: Uncle Bob may turn out to be surprisingly competitive. Keep the pace comfortable and the competition light.

Past the entertainment, these activities offer something valuable: physical movement. Walking, playing and staying active support cardiovascular health. Even short bouts of activity count, especially when they become part of a regular routine.

Nobody has to count calories, wear a fitness tracker or announce how many steps they've taken.

Thanksgiving is about giving thanks, and spending time together. And if you happen to burn a few calories before dessert, consider that gravy's a silver lining.





By David Patterson

Remembering Allison DeFoor

The Rev. Canon Dr. Allison DeFoor leaves a legacy rooted in faith, public service and a deep love for Florida.

Some lives are measured by the positions a person holds. Others are measured by the difference that person makes. The Rev. Canon Dr. Allison DeFoor built a life that reflected both, moving through the worlds of law, public service, ministry and environmental conservation with a commitment to leaving his community better than he found it.

DeFoor, a seventh-generation Floridian, served as president and CEO of the North Florida Land Trust, the Jacksonville-based nonprofit dedicated to protecting the region's irreplaceable natural landscapes. His work was driven by a simple but urgent conviction: Florida's natural heritage must be preserved for future generations.

His professional path was anything but ordinary. He served as a prosecutor, public defender, county and circuit judge, and elected sheriff of Monroe County. He also taught law at the University of Miami and held leadership positions in organizations working to strengthen Florida's civic and environmental future.



In addition to his distinguished legal and public service career was another calling: ministry.

An ordained Episcopal priest, DeFoor served as Canon to the Ordinary to the Bishop of the Diocese of Florida. His ministry included serving congregations in four prisons near Tallahassee and working at Grace Mission, an inner-city ministry. His life brought together the principles of justice, compassion, faith and responsibility to others.

His influence extended across Florida's conservation movement. He served as Florida's Everglades policy coordinator under Gov. Jeb Bush and worked alongside former Gov. and U.S. Sen. Bob Graham to advance the Florida Water and Land Conservation Initiative, known as Amendment After moving to Jacksonville in 2015, DeFoor continued his public service through local nonprofit and civic organizations. As president of North Florida Land Trust, he championed the protection of natural spaces so future generations could experience the Florida he cherished.

In an era when success is often measured by personal achievement, DeFoor's life offers a different measure: what we protect, whom we serve and what we leave behind.

His legacy proves that a life of purpose can take many forms and that faith, service and stewardship can become lasting gifts to a community.

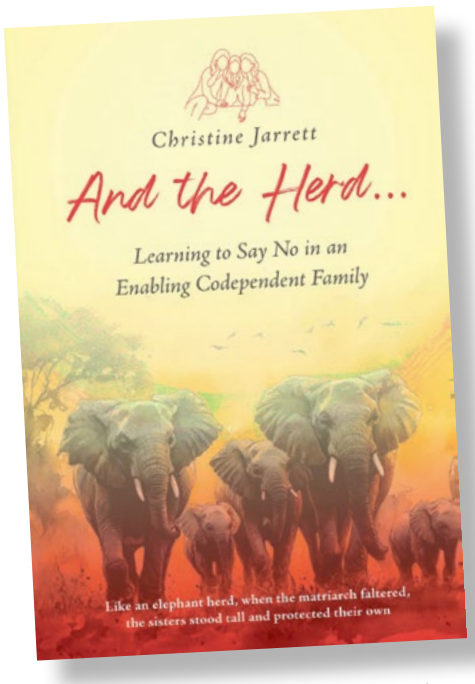


By Miriam Stansbury

When Family Needs A Reset

Family is supposed to be our safety net. But what happens when they become part of a pattern that keeps everyone stuck?

In And the Herd...: Learning to Say No in an Enabling Codependent Family, local author Christine Jarrett takes readers into the complicated reality of growing up in a household shaped by addiction, dysfunction and the painful consequences of putting one family member's needs ahead of everyone else's.



This is not a tidy tale of family disagreements resolved over Sunday dinner. Jarrett shares a personal account of a mother whose attention centers on her addicted sons, leaving her daughters to navigate the emotional fallout. Against that backdrop, three sisters develop a bond that becomes a source of protection and strength as they work to build healthier lives for themselves and their children.

The book's title draws on the behavior of elephants, whose herds gather around vulnerable members to protect them. It is a fitting metaphor for the sisters' relationship, and a reminder that family loyalty can mean standing together while also recognizing when a pattern must end.

Jarrett's story explores the difficult business of setting boundaries, stepping away from codependent relationships and figuring out who you are outside of the roles you have played for years. For adult children who have spent decades trying to keep the peace, or parents and grandparents concerned about the family dynamics being passed to another generation, the subject may hit close to home.

The takeaway is not that family ties should be discarded when life gets messy. It is that love does not require sacrificing your own well-being to keep someone else comfortable. Sometimes, caring for the people you love begins with saying no and learning that you are allowed to have a life of your own.

For readers who appreciate honest memoirs about family relationships, personal boundaries and the work of changing long-established patterns, Jarrett offers a perspective worth considering.

Laugh a Little. Give a Lot.

Giggles for Good brings comedy, cocktails and a cause to Jacksonville

Caregiving is serious business. But what if a little laughter could make the job easier? That's the thinking behind Giggles for Good, a new comedy fundraiser hosted by ElderSource on November 12 at WJCT Studios in downtown Jacksonville.

The evening promises plenty of laughs with Rich Guzzi, one of the nation's most sought-after comedy hypnotists. Featured on Access Hollywood, TMZ, FOX and NBC, Guzzi combines comedy, audience participation and the fascinating power of the mind for an entertaining, interactive show.

But there's a meaningful purpose behind the punchlines.

Guzzi knows the demands of caregiving firsthand. Having served as a caregiver for the past 12 years, he understands the physical and emotional toll that comes with looking after a loved one. He also knows how laughter can provide a much-needed break. He developed The Shift, a digital tool designed to help caregivers recognize stress and avoid burnout, which will be available at the event.

The need is substantial. According to AARP's Valuing the Invaluable 2026 report, more than four million Floridians provide approximately four billion hours of unpaid care annually to older parents, spouses and other loved ones. That work represents an estimated $80 billion in annual economic value.

Proceeds from Giggles for Good will help ElderSource expand programs that reach family caregivers throughout Northeast Florida, including support groups, educational classes, respite services and burnout prevention resources.

"Family caregivers fill critical gaps in our health care system," says Linda Levin, CEO of ElderSource. "The value they provide often comes at significant cost to their own health, financial security and well-being."

Consider this an evening when doing something good for others also means having a good time yourself.

Tickets are $125 and include entertainment, food, hors d'oeuvres and drinks. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., with the show beginning at 7 p.m.

ElderSource

Giggles for Good

PRESENTED BY DR. YASHWANT DEO



November 12

WJCT Studios, Downtown Jacksonville

Purchase tickets at MyElderSource.org.

Your ticket buys more than a night of laughs. It helps support the people who spend their days caring for someone else.

Things To Do *this month*

November 1, 1:00 PM
Jacksonville Jaguars vs. Indianapolis Colts

EverBank Stadium, 1 EverBank Stadium Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32202



The Jaguars return to Jacksonville after their London games and bye week to face division rival Indianapolis. It is the first of two November opportunities to catch the team at EverBank Stadium. Ticket prices vary.
jaguars.com

November 4, 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Appreciating Art Through Books: The Maverick's Museum

Story & Song Center for Arts & Culture
1430 Park Avenue, Fernandina Beach, FL 32034

Museum docents Janet Brendel and Susan Ziel discuss Blake Gopnik's book about Albert Barnes, the outspoken collector behind one of America's most important art collections. Free admission.
storyandsongarts.org

November 6, 8:00 PM - 10:00 PM
UNF Astronomy Night

University of North Florida, Science and Engineering Building, Room 1102, 1 UNF Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32224

The evening begins with a short public talk about astronomy, followed by rooftop stargazing through telescopes if the weather cooperates. Free admission.
events.unf.edu/events



November 7, Noon - 8:00 PM
Jacksonville PorchFest

Historic Springfield porches near Henry J. Klutho Park
204 West Third Street, Jacksonville, FL 32206

More than 20 musical acts perform throughout Historic Springfield during this neighborhood festival. Walk between porch performances, browse the arts market and stop at the food trucks. Drinks and optional VIP packages cost extra. Free admission.
jacksonvilleporchfest.org

November 11, 11:00 AM
Jacksonville Veterans Day Parade

Downtown Jacksonville, beginning on Water Street near the Jacksonville Center for the Performing Arts

More than 2,500 participants—including active-duty and retired military units, veterans' organizations, high school marching bands, JROTC groups and floats—take part in Florida's largest Veterans Day parade. The route continues along Bay Street and ends near VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena. Free admission.
events.jacksonville.gov

November 11, 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM
The Flying Ace: Where the Story Began

Rita F. Reagan Set Building
6360 Commerce Street, Jacksonville, FL 32211

Learn about the history and continuing influence of The Flying Ace, the landmark 1926 silent film made at Jacksonville's Norman Studios. Richard Norman's grandson and three composers involved in the Jacksonville Symphony's new score will discuss the film and how music changes the way audiences. Light refreshments are included. Free admission; advance registration is required.
normanstudios.com

November 20, 7:00 PM
Jacksonville Icemen vs. Orlando Solar Bears

VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena
300 A. Philip Randolph Boulevard, Jacksonville, FL 32202



The Icemen host their in-state rivals for a Friday-night hockey game. The evening also carries a Cars Night theme, making it an option for an outing with grandchildren as well as fellow hockey fans. Tickets: $20 plus.
jacksonvilleicemen.com

November 21, 4:00 PM
Nights of Lights: Light-Up! Night

Plaza de la Constitución, 170 St. George Street
St. Augustine, FL 32084



St. Augustine switches on millions of white lights across its historic downtown. Opening night includes live entertainment and the lighting ceremony at the plaza; the display continues nightly through January 18. Allow extra travel time for the opening-night crowds. Free admission.
floridashistoriccoast.com/nights-lights

November 25 – January 1
lights nightly from 5:00 PM - 1:00 AM

Jacksonville Beach Deck the Chairs
Seawalk Pavilion, 75 First Street North
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250



More than 40 lifeguard chairs become illuminated works of art created by local businesses, artists and nonprofit groups. Visitors can stroll through the oceanfront display, with student performances and other activities offered on selected dates. Free admission.
deckthechairs.org

November 25, 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM
Annual Ritz-Carlton Christmas Tree Lighting



The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island, 4750 Amelia Island Parkway, Amelia Island, FL 32034

The resort lights its 40-foot Christmas tree during an evening of holiday music, performances, cookies and cider, followed by fireworks. Complimentary shuttle service is available from Peters Point. Tickets are $25.
ameliaisland.com/activity

November 26, 6:50 AM
Community First Thanksgiving Distance Classic

Pickwick Plaza, 9850 San Jose Boulevard, Jacksonville, FL 32257

Start Thanksgiving with a one-mile Turkey Trot, 5K or half marathon. This longstanding Mandarin event supports the Mandarin Food Bank and includes finisher medals and post-race refreshments. Online registration through November 25. Tickets: $25 plus
1stplacesports.com/races

November 27, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Christmas Made in the South

Prime F. Osborn III Convention Center
1000 Water Street, Jacksonville, FL 32204

Hundreds of artists and craftspeople gather for this large holiday market featuring handmade gifts, jewelry, pottery, seasonal decorations, artwork and artisan demonstrations. One admission is good for all three days with a hand stamp. Admission is $10 for adults and free for children 12 and younger.
madeinthesouthshows.com

November 28, 5:00 PM
Jacksonville Holiday River Fest and Light Boat Parade

Riverfront Plaza, 2 West Independent Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Downtown's main holiday celebration combines seasonal activities, food trucks and the lighting of Jacksonville's Christmas tree at 6:25 p.m. The Light Boat Parade begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by the announcement of winners and fireworks over the St. Johns River at approximately 8:30 p.m. Free admission.
events.jacksonville.gov

November 29, 4:00 PM
Jacksonville Jaguars vs. Tennessee Titans

EverBank Stadium, 1 EverBank Stadium Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Close out Thanksgiving weekend with an afternoon home game against Tennessee. The divisional matchup is November's second Jaguars game in Jacksonville and offers an alternative to another day of holiday shopping. Ticket prices vary by seat.
jaguars.com

November 30, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Active After 50 Expo & Holiday Food Drive for Feeding Northeast Florida

Florida Blue Conference Center
4800 Deerwood Parkway, Jacksonville, FL 32256

***PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR THIS EVENT ONLY.**

Bring non-perishable food items to support our community and join fellow community members for a high-energy day filled with connection and real solutions to help you age well. Discover the tools, resources, and services designed to support your lifestyle in one exciting place. A complimentary hot buffet lunch will be provided for the first 250 people. No Cost to Attend. ***ActiveAfter50Expo.com***

JACKSONVILLE EXPO & HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

ACTIVE AFTER 50 EXPO



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH

10 AM to 1 PM

Florida Blue Conference Center

4800 Deerwood Campus Pkwy. Jacksonville, FL 32246

IMPORTANT NOTE!
Attendee Pre-Registration is Required for this Event!

FREE ADMISSION & LUNCH

BRING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS FOR FEEDING® NORTHEAST FLORIDA

REGISTER NOW to ATTEND!

ActiveAfter50Expo.com

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