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Love in the Fast Lane

February has a way of reminding us that love shows up in many forms — in the stories we share, the passions we pursue, and the community we build together right here in Harbor Bluffs.

This month’s cover story is a true celebration of love and individuality. Doug and Aracely’s story is equal parts romance and personality, centered around a shared passion that turns heads wherever it goes — their unforgettable Batmobile. It’s a love story with horsepower, heart, and a whole lot of fun, and one that perfectly captures the spirit of being unapologetically yourself with the person you love most.

We’re also proud to recognize our February Sponsor of the Month, **Coastal Animal Clinic**. Their dedication to compassionate, high-quality care for our four-legged family members makes a meaningful difference in our neighborhood every day. Love isn’t limited to people — and Coastal Animal Clinic exemplifies that through their commitment to keeping our pets healthy, happy, and thriving.

As you flip through this issue, we hope you’re reminded of the many connections that make Harbor Bluffs such a special place to call home. Thank you for supporting the neighbors, businesses, and stories that bring our community to life.

Happy Valentine’s Month — and thank you for being part of *Stroll Harbor Bluffs*.

With gratitude,

Devin
Publisher, *Stroll Harbor Bluffs*



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THE
BATMOBILE
& A TRUE LOVE



And just like that we are 60 years into the future from when the Dynamic Duo and the Batmobile made their first TV debut on ABC January 12th, 1966.

After all,...It was “In Living Color.”

Black and white TV was still a common format for shows filmed in 1964 and 1965 like Bewitched and I Dream of Genie. With only 3 network channels to choose from, everyone in the country was watching the same shows and talking about them with their friends and neighbors the next day.

When the Batman show first aired, we had just entered the Vietnam war

three months earlier. The 60's flower child movement was underway, and now bold, radiant color could be seen on national TV.

1966 rolls around and...
BAM!

Enter the colorful Caped Crusaders with no guns to fight crime; Only their quick crime answering wit, Bat gadgets and gloved fists.

We learned new terms like the Bat-rope, Bat-a-rang, Bat-shield, Bat-shark-repellant, a Bat-crime-computer, Bat-cave. Even the Bat-belt which held the all-purpose Bat-swatter to combat the



Lygerian-fruit flies which were released by the Penguin. But by far the most memorable to all of us is...

“THE BATMOBILE”

A 300-mph black rocket car where adventure tied to an unlimited imagination ran wild. The Batmobile came equipped with the Bat-phone, Bat-detect-o-scope, Bat-ray, Bat-laser, Emergency Bat-turn-lever with drag racing jettison Bat-chutes, Bat-ram, Bat-chain cutter, Bat Geiger counter, Bat-rockets and Bat-smokescreen to elude pursuers. The unsuspecting Batmobile Bat accessories list goes on to whatever was needed for the TV show script that week to fight the colorful comical villains of crime.

And let's not forget the atomic batteries which powered a fire breathing Batmobile turbine engine. What young adolescent does not want to see and hear a car's burst of flame thrusting out of its jet engine's exhaust upon ignition?

People have asked me, “Did you always want a Batmobile?” Or “Is that your dream car?”

The answer is “No”.



I never knew the Batmobile was something one could acquire. It was mythical, an allegorical figure of fantasy. In my mind only one Batmobile did or ever could exist.

Until...**Kaboom!**

I saw a Batmobile on TV at a car auction. Not the original Adam West show car which sold for 4.6MM, but an artistic rendition. Then I came across a Batmobile that is listed online at a classic car dealership up North. I found a company that makes Batmobiles from scratch in Indiana, but with slow pay as you go four year wait plan, not for me. I need one now. Surely there must be others, so the search began.

With the devastation of flooding that hurricane Helene brought to our area in 2024 nearly wiping out every automobile on our block there became a need to replace what was lost with something better. It is a part of our self-made therapy to rebuild and move on. After several months of searching for a vehicle that accurately resembled a Batmobile I found one in Pennsylvania. It was missing a few Bat-gadgets, but it was close enough.

Now here comes the Love Story. Not with the Batmobile...but with my lovely wife Aracely.

My biggest Riddle was yet to be answered.

How do I convince Aracely of my need to purchase a very expensive fictitious vehicle that can only be driven on fair weathered days, has no AC, no radio, no windshield wipers, no electric windows, no airbags, no warranty, and has a reputation for overheating???

Aracely grew up in the late 70's in a different time and a different era. Not only did she never see a full episode of a 1966 Batman show, but she had never connected that car with the 1966 TV show series which ended in 1968.

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For fun...

Out of the blue, try with a stern and serious face telling your spouse or loved one..."Oh by the way, I'm going to buy a Batmobile."

It's one of those questions that we toss out that is disguised as a confident statement in attempt to test the waters.

I was expecting a quick questioning rebuttal.

Something like... Why in the world would you waste all that money on a toy car that you'll rarely drive?

But that's what is so unique about Aracely and what keeps our relationship strong. Her love and faith in me are unsurpassed. Her trust and confidence in me to make big purchase decisions is steadfast. Aracely believes in me and gives me that added assurance every man craves to be given. It allows me to enjoyably return the love she gives me, and I fall head over heels in love with her repeatedly each day. It consistently strengthens our bond.

Without hesitation Aracely replied to my disguised question...

"If that is what you want and it will make you happy, go ahead and buy it. We'll enjoy it together."

And just like that... **ham!**

The deal is done. "Holy Hurling Balls of Fire Batman!"

Aracely and I do greatly enjoy the Batmobile together.

It's a big street legal toy that puts a smile on just about everyone's face, and in return it puts a smile on our faces, too others and too each other.

Aracely is my True Love. Not for agreeing to purchase a Batmobile, but for all the love she shows me each day with her confidence in me. "Confidence" I can count on both in good and not so good times. It becomes my encouragement and my strength when I battle my villains. Her love is my lifeline in helping me to climb to safety. She allows me to feel and touch love knowing her hand will be there to hold, today, tomorrow, and the next day, and forever. I need no Superhero to save me... I have Aracely by my side.

From Aracely and Doug,

Happy Valentines to our neighbors and friends, and to all of you other Super Dynamic Duos.

Best in the Bay... Goes to a Corgi!

BY JEWELS CHANDLER

Well, I was not at all surprised when Devin Pappas, the owner/publisher of *Stroll Harbor Bluffs*, won Best of the Bay's Philanthropist and Raising Relief Foundation for best Place to Volunteer. (*Stroll Harbor Bluffs* Magazine should have been in there because they are great to work at)... But a dog?! Yes, you read correctly. Three-year-old Corgi named Theo (a Precious Pet Alumni), who belongs to the Nemec family, won that honor. Sabrina, Nova, and Corin nominated him originally, and following that, all the Creative Loafing Readers were able to vote.



The information as to how many votes he received was not provided, but there were MANY other dogs nominated in the contest, and he won! Yay. Several fur parents showed up to the awards party with their dogs in hopes of winning the award. The Nemecs did not

bring Theo, as they went to have a quiet dinner first, and dogs were not allowed in the restaurant at the Hard Rock. He would have only been allowed into the actual event. Congratulations to all the winners, but especially Harbor Bluff's best!!

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Stories of Love in Harbor Bluffs



Ana Marina Ingham and Riley Compton joyfully announce their engagement. Riley proposed on November 2, 2025, during a birthday celebration at a winery in Middleburg, Virginia. After nearly two years together, the couple is excited to plan a winter wedding in Florida and begin their life together.

A New Chapter: Welcoming Baby Jason
Welcoming our baby, Jason, into the world at the end of October 2025 marked the beginning of the most meaningful chapter of my life. After many years of waiting, hoping, and persevering through uncertainty, becoming a mother feels like a profound blessing — one that brought deep healing, clarity, and gratitude.

I came to the United States from Ukraine, a country that has since faced devastating hardship. Leaving my homeland, my medical career, and everything familiar was one of the hardest decisions of my life. Starting over required resilience, faith, and an unwavering belief that challenges can give rise to purpose. As a physician, healing has always been at the core of who I am — but this journey taught me that healing is not only something we give to others; it is also something we rebuild within ourselves.

By my side throughout this journey has been my husband, Kenny. We have known each other for over a decade and have built our life together through years of hard work, shared goals, and mutual support. Walking this path together — across challenges and new beginnings — made the arrival of our son even more meaningful.

In a short span of time, our lives transformed completely: a new home, the opening of our wellness center just two months before the arrival of our baby, Jason. Jason’s name means “*healer*,” and it feels profoundly fitting. In many ways, he healed parts of our lives shaped by loss, transition, and years of striving forward without knowing when rest would finally come.

Motherhood has reshaped my understanding of strength and balance, while deepening our shared commitment to family and community. Together,

we founded Beach Wellness Center in Seminole as a place dedicated to natural, non-invasive restoration and recovery — created from both personal experience and a genuine desire to help others feel supported and renewed.

Today, I feel deeply grateful — for our family, for this new beginning, and for the opportunity to build something meaningful together. With a new baby, a growing business, and a shared sense of purpose, this chapter feels like a true rebirth — one rooted in resilience, love, and hope.

Iryna Klymova & Kenny Brewer
Founders, Beach Wellness Center



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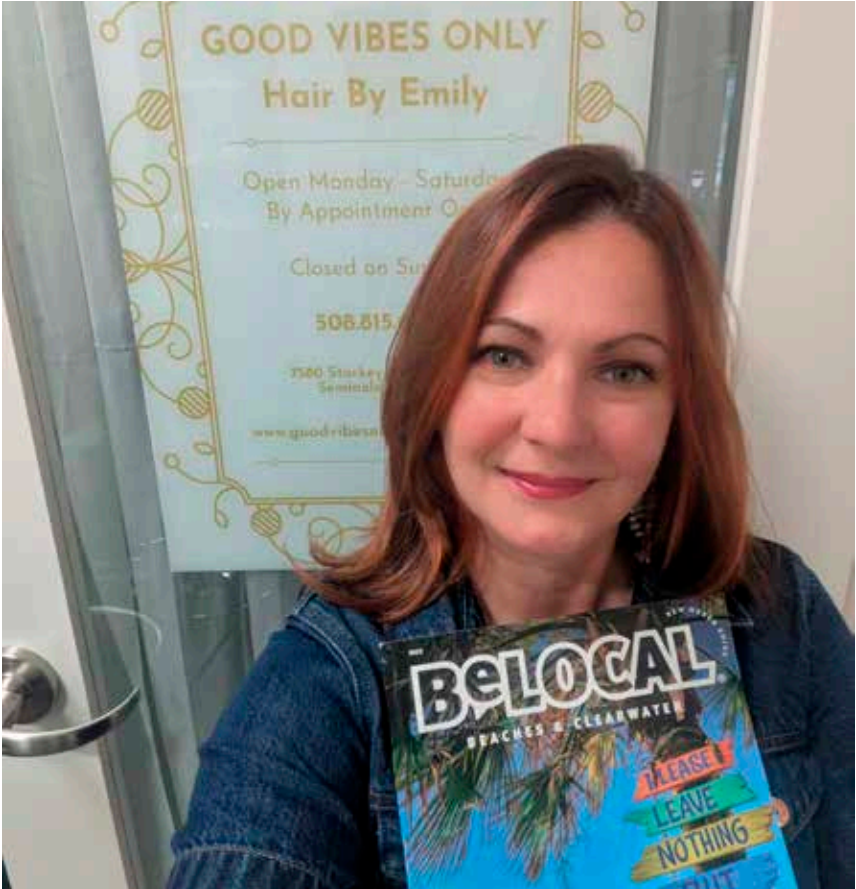
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Healing with Heart: Inside Coastal Animal Clinic's Holistic Approach

Featuring Dr. Brooke Certa

PHOTOS BY MONTROSE MEDIA



When it comes to compassionate, community-centered veterinary care, **Dr. Brooke Certa of Coastal Animal Clinic** is leading the way with heart, intention, and a commitment to healing that goes far beyond the exam room.

ROOTS, FAMILY & COMMUNITY

Dr. Certa grew up in rural Central Illinois before making her way to Tampa Bay in 2008 after graduating from UF's College of Veterinary Medicine. Her career began with Banfield inside Petsmart locations, where she also began building her family—both at home and within her clinic teams. Today, she considers her staff part of her extended family, as they play a vital role in how the practice serves pets and their people. Her two teenage children are even starting to get more involved in the “family business,” stepping into more hands-on roles.

PASSIONS, HEALING, & GIVING BACK

A lifelong animal lover, Dr. Certa has developed a deep interest in alternative healing approaches that complement traditional western veterinary medicine. She has embraced energy medicine and spiritual healing, weaving both into her work with pets and their owners. Her teams frequently partner with local rescue groups and are exploring opportunities to support schools, nursing homes, and hospice centers—bringing comfort, connection, and healing through animals and energy work.

THE JOURNEY TO OWNERSHIP

After seven years in corporate veterinary medicine—rising from doctor to multi-site leader—Dr. Certa realized she wanted something different. She sought a place where she could practice medicine with integrity, treat teams with respect, and

provide care without the limitations she experienced in corporate structures. That vision guided her to purchase her own clinic, where she now leads with both medical expertise and the business acumen she gained along the way.

WHAT MAKES COASTAL ANIMAL CLINIC UNIQUE

In a landscape increasingly dominated by corporate-owned veterinary chains, Coastal Animal Clinic stands out as one of the few **privately owned clinics** left in the area. Dr. Certa is passionate about preserving personalized, accessible veterinary care—care that is becoming harder to find as consolidation grows and communication between clinics and specialty centers diminishes.

Her mission is simple: **to be the trusted healthcare partner families can rely on.** She envisions a veterinary



experience where pets and their people feel known, supported, and part of a connected community.

ADVICE FOR HARBOR BLUFFS RESIDENTS

Dr. Certa believes in the power of partnership. “It’s important to have a healthcare partner in the community you can relate to, feel comfortable with, and trust,” she says. “We all heal better together—pets and people. Our pets are often a reflection of our own wellbeing, and when something is off with them, it may be a sign that our whole family system needs attention.”

FUN EXTRAS & WHAT’S NEW AT THE CLINIC

Coastal Animal Clinic is growing in exciting and innovative ways! Their practice manager, **Amber**, recently earned her **Captain’s License**—and the team is already dreaming up ways to take their mission of care “to the water.”

The clinic is also excited to welcome **Joe Lombardo** as their new **Chief Vibes Officer and Reiki Master**. Joe is a creative consultant, photographer’s agent, and energy-based practitioner dedicated to bridging art, consciousness, and compassionate living. His unique background brings a fresh, forward-thinking modality to the veterinary world—helping Coastal Animal Clinic expand its whole-being wellness offerings for both pets and their people.





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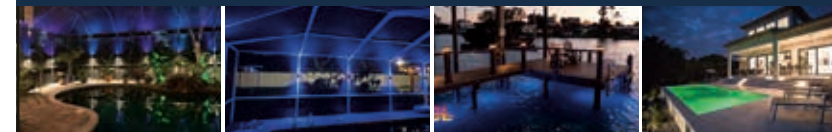
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YOU LIKE TO MOVE IT?

BY JEWELS CHANDLER



I like to move it, move it
I like to move it, move it
I like to move it, move it
You like to move it?...

Well, do those lyrics make you think you should be moving? My name is Stanley, and my mom is Corinne Rungo, who owns and operates **Dance Depot on 1261 South Fort Harrison Street in Clearwater (across from the hospital)**. I am a 4-year-old Rescue Terrier mix. I love to move it and be with my mom as she teaches others to move it! Sometimes, Mom calls me Stanley Giuseppe Rungo. The name came from an old cartoon where the character was named Stanley, and Mom liked it, so there you have it!

When people walk through the door, I can tell immediately if they are a dog person. The “Twinklers” (Neuro Diverse Adults) that Mom works with love to pet me before and after they practice their routines. Having a mom who has a large space for dancing



and/or exercising is great because I occasionally have the zoomies...I do so enjoy moving and grooving to the studio music. Most of the time when people come into the studio, I rest in my comfy, soft bed from the sidelines and watch them move and groove to the awesome music.

Do you like to move it? Dance Depot is a blast. Not only do we have dance lessons, both private and group lessons, but we also have fitness classes to very cool music. Even Yoga. I love it when the students do the downward dog. We have dance Socials, which are lots of fun, but Mom likes me on the sidelines to just watch, so that's where I hang out. I recommend that people check out the monthly calendar to see the many different things going on. (727) 286-6002 or clearwaterdancedepot.com. Sign up for

CONTINUED ►





the newsletters. You are also welcome to stop in to see what's going on, AND to pet me of course if I happen to be there. NOTE: I adore belly rubs!

Whether I am in the studio or not, it is a safe zone, a non-judgmental zone. Mom makes sure of that. There are no comparisons, just pawstivity! Each person is safely able to follow their passion, and baby steps are welcome. When people come in to take lessons for just fun or whatever event they have coming up, or they want to exercise to awesome tunes, I give them a little smile from the sidelines as a bit of encouragement. I know it helps them.

My Mom loves inspiring people and finds it invigorating to see them succeed. Dance and exercise are fulfilling to the mind, body, and soul. Come in to check it all out for yourselves. Something for everyone...well, for humans anyway. If I am there, I will let you pet me. **Show me how you like to move it, move it!**

Jane Monheit
Wed, Feb 11 at 7:30pm

Wishbone Ash
Wed, Mar 11 at 7:30pm

Seals & Crofts 2
Thu, Feb 12 at 7:30pm

The Yonder Mountain String Band
Sun, Mar 15 at 7pm

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Sun, Feb 15 at 2pm

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Cat Of Many Names

BY JEWELS CHANDLER



Meeko is a 10-year-old rescued snowshoe cat with a chocolate mask, paws, and tail. He belongs to Susan Goins and Joe Gilbert on Cedar Lane. The nickname he is sometimes called is “cat boy” since the couple has another cat, who is a female. He is a “shy boy” compared to their other cat. **The name Meeko came from the movie Pocahontas, as there was a raccoon friend who had similar markings with that name, which Susan thought fitting.** This was the couple’s first cat at this home. Their Schnauzer had passed away, and they missed him, so they decided to get a cat since they have always loved cats.

CONTINUED ►







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Scaredy cat” could have been another nickname, as Meeko is afraid of loud noises, but loves anything with catnip. His favorite food is ham and cheese, and he is always curious about what his humans have. When I met Meeko, he was hiding in one of the bedrooms, but eventually came out. It just takes him a while to make sure all is safe. He is a well-behaved cat and loves to chase, tackle, and play with his sister, and often learns new things from her. I guess that would make him a “copycat”. He also loves to sit on Mom’s chest and give her kisses. What a love bug! He thoroughly enjoys being brushed and using his big scratch pad. Not a fan of bath time...at all. He would rather skip that altogether!

He snores when sleeping on his back occasionally or lying in a position that resembles flying when he is just relaxing. He loves to engage his brain and will tackle puzzles. I asked if he climbs the Christmas tree when it’s up. Neither cat has done that, but Meeko does enjoy lying in the manger. He will knock Mary right out of the scene. Well, Christmas IS all about Jesus anyway!

In writing about Meeko, he seems to have several nicknames. His Mom and Dad love every one of them!

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“La Vie en Rose”

BY JENNY AND BRIAN NICASTRO

(*Life in Pink / Through Rose-Tinted Glasses*) is the signature song of French singer Édith Piaf. One of the most famous interpretations is Louis Armstrong’s 1950 recording, a classic featuring his warm, gravelly vocals and a smooth, jazz-infused arrangement.

- 2 parts Vodka
- ½ part Lillet Blanc**
- ½ part Saint Germaine
- ½ part lemon
- 3 parts fresh squeezed grapefruit juice
- ½ part simple syrup (use if grapefruit isn’t sweet enough)
- Rim glass with pink himalayan and a dash of sugar
- Garnish with grapefruit wedge

Directions

1. Rim a chilled rocks with pink Himalayan salt and a dash of sugar (or your preferred salt). Set aside.
2. In a cocktail shaker filled with ice, combine the vodka, Lillet, St-Germain, fresh-squeezed grapefruit juice, and simple syrup (if needed).
3. Shake vigorously until well-chilled.
4. Strain into a rocks glass with a salt rim.
5. Garnish with a fresh grapefruit wedge.

This recipe draws inspiration from the martini, the Blushing Kiss, and the classic Salty Dog. Best served on the rocks but I serve everything in a coup or martini glass LOL. Cue up Louis Armstrong’s “La Vie en Rose” and let the moment unfold.

*I get my Lillet Blanc from Bellavino. Here’s to love in all its forms and to finding sweetness wherever you can.

Wishing you a lovely Valentine’s Day.

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Jenny and Brian



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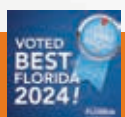


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Neighbors Night Out at Soul Fusion with Art Walk

BY JEWELS CHANDLER

On Wednesday, September 24th, a wonderful group of residents and sponsors participated in an Art Walk with Beth Daniels from Clearwater Arts Alliance, who curated the walk. We all met at the Public Library, and the walk was very informative and interesting. Many people commented on how much they enjoyed themselves, and had no idea all that artwork was there.

After the walk, noting all the beautiful artwork, we gathered at Soul Scillion Fusion on Cleveland Street and were provided with fresh pizza appetizers and beverages. There were raffles, of course, but it was done a little differently. Questions were asked, hands were raised, and if the question was answered correctly, a prize was given. We had five or six prizes. It was fun evening.

Several people commented on the yummy food and ambiance

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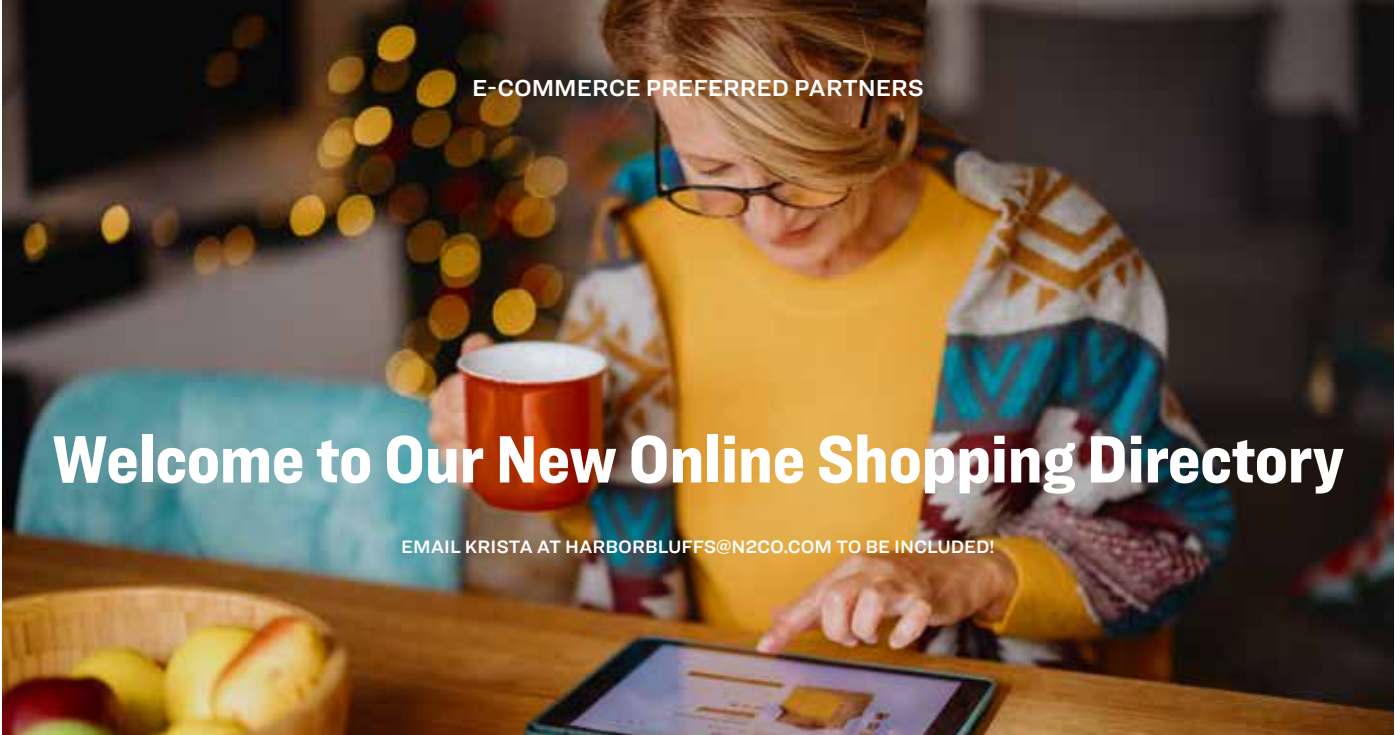
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in the restaurant. It was the first time for many, and some were excited to go back. The owner, Natalya, was absolutely gracious and accommodating. Check out this jewel of a restaurant. Call 727-754-3259 for reservations for both inside and outside seating. You will be so pleased.





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