

Scenic Watch



News From
November
2021

Jacksonville's Arboretum and Gardens - Wins Best Scenic Trail Award 2021 and illuminates the forest for the holidays



Photo: Corey Perrine, Florida Times-Union

"Thousands of lights across a 3/4-mile walk are on display to draw young and old alike to celebrate the holiday season. Live entertainment, a 65-foot tunnel and a forest of fog and light are a few key attractions. The display runs through Jan. 9, 2022."

-- Corey Perrine, Florida Times-Union

[Read entire article](#) about event

[Read entire article](#) about award and the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens

"South Florida brothers team up to restore world's lost mangroves"



Video: Local10.com WPLG

"For over 100 years as South Florida's coastline was developed, acres upon acres of mangroves were destroyed in the process.

In recent years we've begun to understand just how vital mangroves are to protecting our shores and cleaning up our waterways.

Two Palm Beach County brothers recognized that and launched a company with the goal of restoring the world's lost mangroves.

They're doing it by selling hats and shirts, changing the world by planting one mangrove at a time.

On the day Local 10 News met up with the brothers, as the sun rose over the historic lighthouse on the Jupiter Inlet, a team of dedicated volunteers began to plant the first of 1,000 baby mangroves on an eroding shore where these ancient trees once dominated the coastline.

'We are putting back what was once here and we are using natural elements to stabilize eroding shorelines,' said Peter Dewitt, program manager for the Bureau of Land Management of the Jupiter Inlet outstanding natural area...

'These mangroves are our future. They're the future stability of our economy. They're protecting our ecosystems, protecting our shorelines and protecting our community for the future,' said Mang co-founder Keith Rossin.

That's why 30-year-old twin brothers Keith and Kyle Rossin are on an urgent mission to plant as many mangroves as they can.

So together they created 'Mang,' a high performance outdoor apparel brand with a commitment to plant one mangrove for every product they sell.

'Buy one, plant one,' Kyle Rossin said. 'It all started with our passion to protect the environment.'

The seed was planted six years ago inside their mother's garage that today is still an overflow space for inventory...

Meanwhile in mom's backyard, a mangrove nursery began to flourish.

Kyle Rossin said they have roughly 20,000 mangroves.

'The nursery cycles through about 10,000 a year, so each year we run an annual propagule collection campaign,' he explained.

This past weekend, the Mang brothers planted 2,200 red mangroves in Grand Bahama.

In December, they'll be planting mangroves in Costa Rica just as they have here in Florida, Madagascar, Mozambique, the Philippines and Honduras."

-- Louis Aguirre, Local10.com WPLG

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"A large rainbow-patterned turtle installation has arrived at Midtown Tampa"



Photo: That's So Tampa

"A massive turtle installation has arrived at Midtown Tampa. The rainbow pattered animal can be seen at the center of the Midtown Tampa development, where holiday decor has also begun to pop up.

The large-scale sculpture installation commissioned from internationally acclaimed Okuda San Miguel reflects Tampa and the surrounding environment. The animal world is represented by the birth of a sea turtle, a natural event characteristic of the Florida west coast, in which this balance between nature and civilization is achieved. Still being the place chosen by this animal to perpetuate its species every year..."

-- Andrew Harlan, That's So Tampa

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"Illuminated art installations announced for Water Street Tampa"



Illustration: Andrew Harlan, That's So Tampa

"A glowing green art installation by renowned artist Jim Campbell is set to light up Water Street. The installation, Three Arcs, will bring an entirely new piece of public art to one of the most burgeoning districts in Tampa. This will be in addition to a brand new light display set to shine by the Marriott Hotel in Water Street.

As Water Street Tampa continues to take shape in Downtown Tampa, real estate development firm Strategic Property Partners, LLC ("SPP") is pleased to announce the expansion of its vibrant public art in the community.

Reflecting Water Street Tampa's overall vision to create a welcoming environment with diverse experiences, the curated art celebrates the core values of Water Street Tampa: resiliency, connectivity, technology and well-being. As the mixed-use district completes its highly anticipated first phase of development, SPP will unveil two public art installations that were commissioned to anchor the 56-acre neighborhood. The installations, created by San Francisco-based artist Jim Campbell and London-based art and design firm Jason Bruges Studio, will be large-scale focal points at Water Street Tampa, enjoyed by all residents, employees and guests who visit the neighborhood. Public art is integral to Water Street Tampa

"Public art provides thoughtful experiences that everyone can enjoy; the works we have selected for Water Street Tampa create unique opportunities for the community to engage," said Lee Schaffler, Chief Portfolio Officer of SPP..."

-- Andrew Harlan, That's So Tampa

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"A micro forest is being planted in Sarasota to combat climate change

The Suncoast Urban Reforesters will be planting more than 1,000 trees."



Video: 10 Tampa Bay

"The Stoneybrook Golf and Country Club in Sarasota will soon be home to a

microforest in an effort to combat climate change.

Members of the Suncoast Urban Reforesters (SURF) were out on Wednesday prepping for their plans to plant more than 1,000 trees on the golf course. They say miniature forests are beneficial for the environment since they are fast-growing and capture carbon from the air.

The effort is part of a larger movement that's swept the world over the past year. Micro forests have recently been springing up across Europe and here in the U.S. However, it has its roots in one Japanese botanist's 50-year-old idea.

In the 1970s, botanist Akira Miyawaki planted thousands of these forests in Japan, Malaysia and other parts of the world. The idea being that planting the same species of trees that grow naturally in an area can create a diverse forest community.

Scientists have found that these small forests can not only grow faster but are more biodiverse compared to traditional planting methods. They also found the forests can store 40 times more carbon than any one species of plant, helping aid in the global effort to reduce carbon in the air..."

-- 10 Tampa Bay

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Legal:
Protest Over Condo Development

"Police tell South Florida woman she needs permit to wear Halloween costume"



Photo: Michael Laughlin, South Florida Sun-Sentinel via AP/p>

"A South Florida woman wanted to make a statement with her Halloween costume by dressing up as a condo building project she opposes.

She says a local police officer warned her not to, but according to Facebook posts, she did it anyway.

Cat Uden has been an outspoken critic of a developer's plan to build a 30-story condo on taxpayer-owned beachfront land in Hollywood, Florida.

Ahead of the city's Hollyweird Halloween block party, Uden posted in a Facebook group encouraging others to dress up like the condo building or hold 'No Condo' signs to raise awareness for their cause, the South Florida Sun Sentinel reports.

But Uden ran into an issue when she says a local officer told her the costume coordination plan would be considered a planned protest march, for which she needs a permit.

According to posts by Uden in the 'Hollywood Residents-Speak Up' Facebook group, she had previously applied for permits for protests she has held against the condo developer in the past but did not consider this plan a protest...

The Sun Sentinel reports that Uden and six of her friends followed through on the plan and wore their condo building costumes to the block party without issue. The newspaper adds that one woman toting a 'No Condo' sign says she even got a hug from a police sergeant...

There has been debate over similar issues in the Tampa Bay area after Sarasota City commissioners approved a developer's plan to build a high-rise hotel on Siesta Key.

The plan was a point of contention between people who want to further develop Siesta Key to keep up with the area's rapid growth and those living in the area who don't want to see their home overrun by high-rise hotels. "

-- Michael Laughlin, South Florida Sun-Sentinel via AP

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