



FALL/WINTER 2024

Lively CHARLESTON

MAGAZINE

FEATURE STORY

Emily Curtis

**A Musical
Journey
Shaped by Soul,
Collaboration,
and Local
Influence**



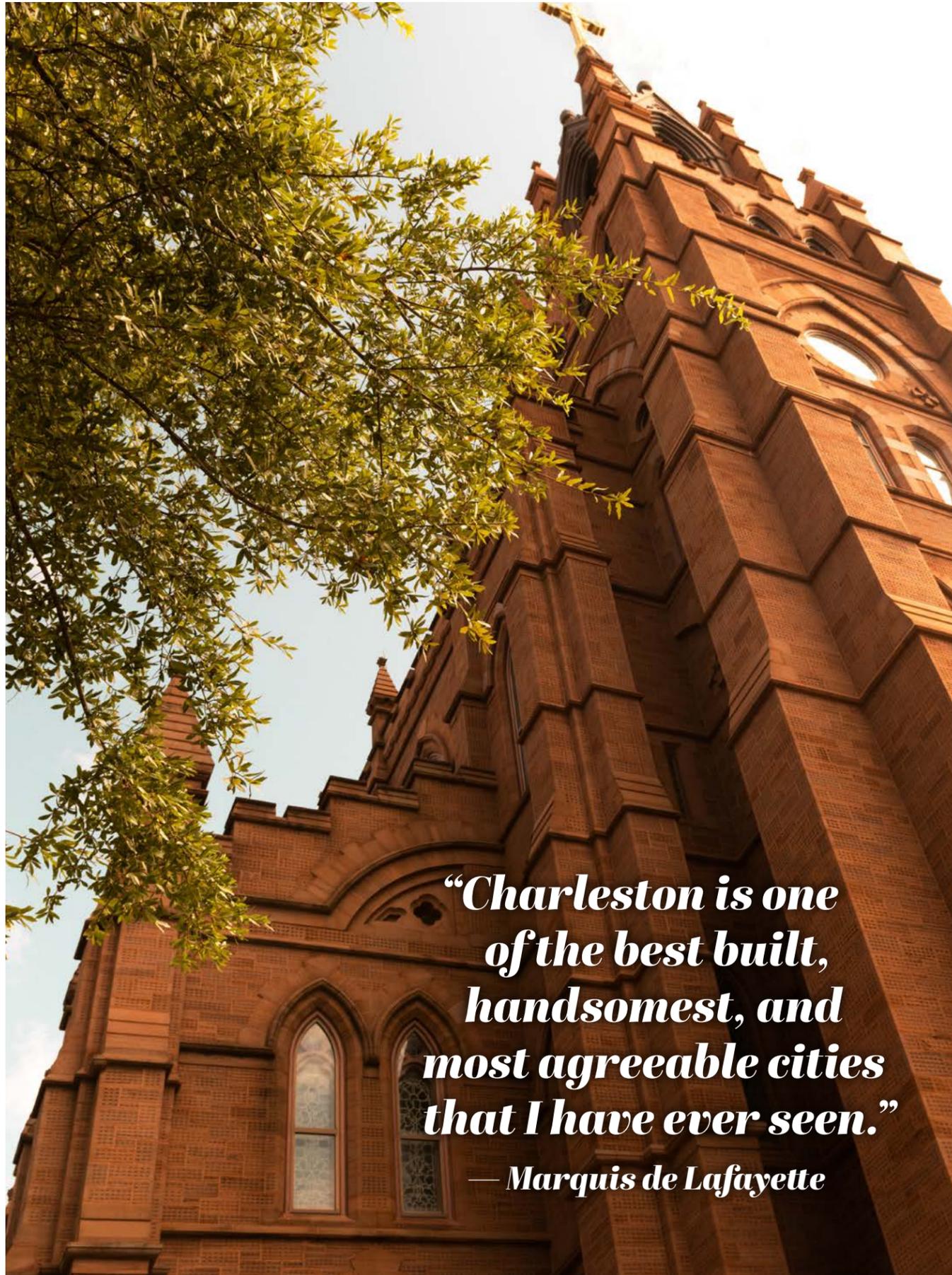
CULTURE

**The Golden
Age of Piracy**

REAL ESTATE

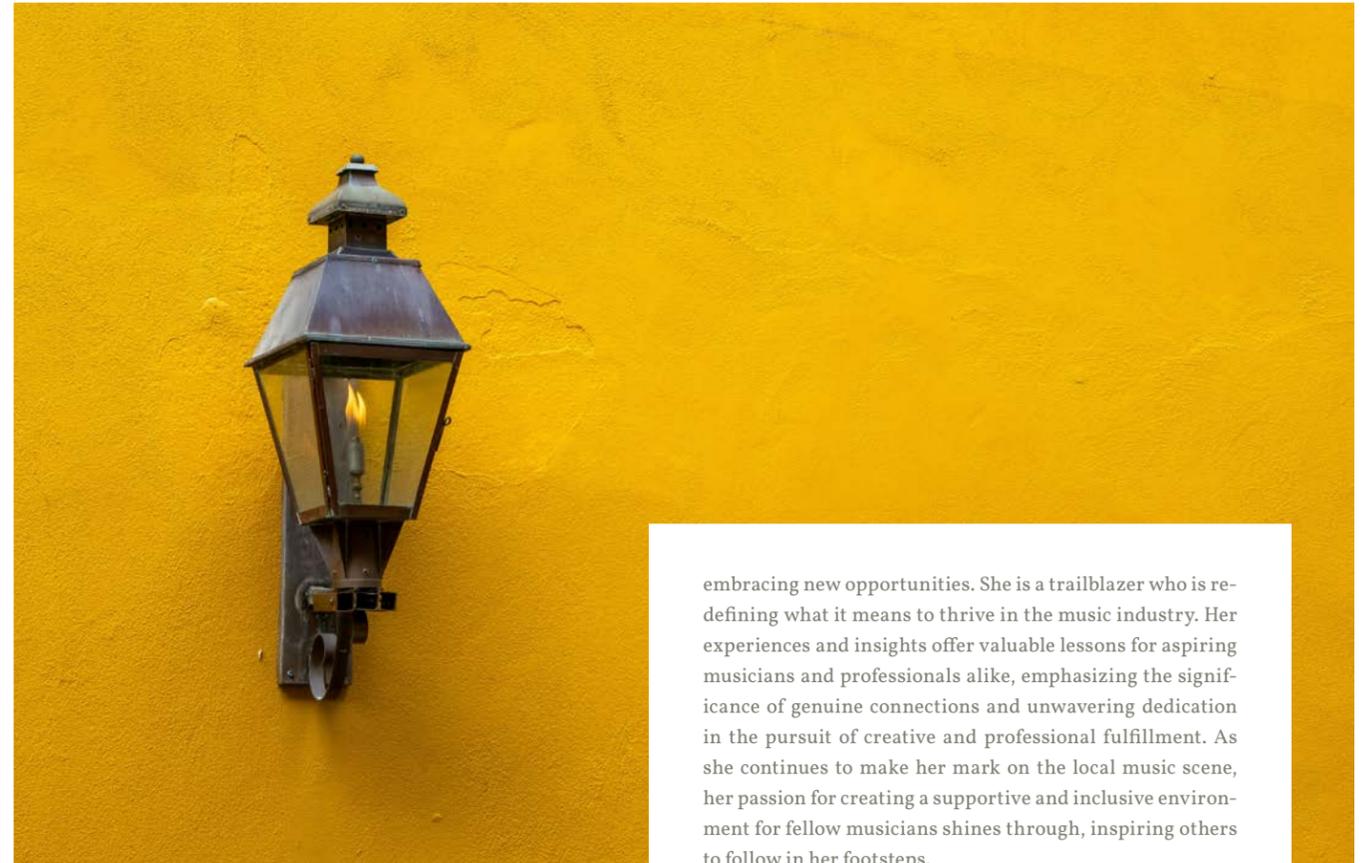
**Southern Living's 2024 Idea
House in Kiawah River**

Cover Photo by Brandon Allan | Charleston City Paper Music Awards 2022



“Charleston is one of the best built, handsomest, and most agreeable cities that I have ever seen.”

— Marquis de Lafayette



embracing new opportunities. She is a trailblazer who is re-defining what it means to thrive in the music industry. Her experiences and insights offer valuable lessons for aspiring musicians and professionals alike, emphasizing the significance of genuine connections and unwavering dedication in the pursuit of creative and professional fulfillment. As she continues to make her mark on the local music scene, her passion for creating a supportive and inclusive environment for fellow musicians shines through, inspiring others to follow in her footsteps.

In this edition, we highlight the inspiring journey of Emily Curtis, a gifted musician and Charleston native. Emily's story is one of artistic exploration, community engagement, and seizing new opportunities. She is a trailblazer, reshaping the industry's definition of success. Emily's impact on the local music scene reflects her commitment to fostering a supportive and inclusive environment for fellow musicians, serving as a beacon of inspiration for others to carve their own paths.

We'd like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our dedicated team and local partners for their unwavering commitment to bringing this magazine to life. A special shoutout to our talented contributors, writers, and designers for their invaluable contributions to this edition.

We invite you to immerse yourself in the stories, images, and ideas that make our city truly come alive during the cooler months. It's our privilege to be your guide to the Low-country.

Cheers!



Jeremy Feldman
Publisher

From The Publisher

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the Fall/Winter 2024 edition of Lively Charleston magazine!

As the seasons change, the humidity fades, and mother nature finally relieves us of that sweltering heat, we are thrilled to bring you a curated collection of articles, features, and insights that capture the spirit of our beloved city. From the storied legacies of pirates, authors, and everyday people who once walked our cobblestone streets to contemporary artists and entrepreneurs, this issue is designed to celebrate the vibrant culture and dynamic energy of Charleston.

This edition features the remarkable journey of Emily Curtis, a Charleston native, and a gifted musician. Emily shared her story of artistic exploration, community building, and

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The Golden Age of Piracy

By Crystal Bryant

The golden age of piracy in Charleston left a lasting legacy that still fascinates visitors and locals alike. The city's rich history is intertwined with the daring exploits of notorious pirates, weaving a captivating tale of adventure and intrigue.

In the early 18th century, these waters were teeming with buccaneers seeking fortune and freedom. The most infamous of them all? None other than Blackbeard himself, Edward Teach.

Legend has it that in 1718, Blackbeard blockaded Charleston's harbor with a small fleet of ships, including his flagship, the Queen Anne's Revenge. He held the entire city hostage, demanding a chest of medicine

in exchange for the release of prominent citizens. This audacious move sent shockwaves through the region and solidified Blackbeard's reputation as a ruthless and formidable pirate. The city complied with his demands, and Blackbeard kept his word - a pirate's honor, if you will.

But Blackbeard wasn't the only scallywag to grace our shores. The "Gentleman Pirate," Stede Bonnet, once operated in the waters of Charleston as well. A wealthy landowner turned buccaneer, Bonnet's foray into piracy was a surprising turn of events, as he abandoned his comfortable life to pursue a career at sea. He outfitted a ship, named it the "Revenge," and gathered a crew of experienced pirates to sail the waters of the Caribbean and the Eastern Seaboard.

Bonnet eventually made its way to Charleston as he allied with Blackbeard for the 1718 blockade. Ultimately, Bonnet's piracy career came to a dramatic end when he was captured and brought to justice in Charleston. He was imprisoned and later executed. Charleston's White Point Garden, now a picturesque park, was once known as The Battery - where pirates were hanged as a warning to others. Their bodies were left to rot in gibbets, a grim reminder of the price of piracy.

Another compelling story is that of Anne Bonny and Mary Read, two formidable female pirates who defied gender norms and made their mark on Charleston's history. Both women found themselves aboard the same ship, where they formed a close bond and shared in the adventurous life of piracy. Their fearless and audacious spirit set them apart in a male-dominated world, and they quickly gained notoriety for their active participation, often fighting alongside their male counterparts.

After a series of daring escapades, Anne Bonny and Mary Read were eventually apprehended and brought to trial. After being found guilty, Read fell ill and died while imprisoned. Bonny was eventually released and likely returned to Charleston where her family had settled to live out the rest of her life. Their trial and subsequent fates have become the stuff of legend and endure as a testament to their remarkable courage and defiance of traditional gender roles during a tumultuous and lawless era.

But it wasn't all gloom and doom. The Golden Age of Piracy brought wealth to Charleston too. Smugglers and corrupt officials lined their pockets, while taverns and brothels thrived on pirate gold.

The hidden tunnels and secret passages that crisscross Charleston's historic streets fuel rumors of buried treasure and clandestine meetings, adding an air of mystery to the city's already captivating atmosphere. These tunnels and passages are said to have been used by pirates to smuggle goods and escape from the authorities.

As you walk through Charleston's cobblestone streets, the echoes of the city's pirate history are ever-present, inviting you to embark on your own seafaring adventure and uncover the enduring spirit of the golden age of piracy. Whether it's exploring the historic waterfront or visiting the Old Exchange and Provost Dungeon, there are countless opportunities to delve deeper into Charleston's captivating pirate legacy. Next time you're wandering our historic harbor, keep an eye out. You never know when you might spot the ghost of a pirate searching for his long-lost treasure.





CULTURE

Uncovering the Literary Legacy of Charleston

By Tre Manchester

Nestled within the cobblestone streets and antebellum mansions of Charleston lies a literary legacy as rich and diverse as the city itself. Join us as we take a journey through time, unraveling the lives and works of authors who called Charleston home, shaping its cultural landscape through their words and imaginations.

Our journey begins with the enigmatic Edgar Allan Poe, who left an indelible mark on his writing during his time in Charleston in the 1820s. It was here that he penned his famous poem "The Raven," drawing inspiration from the city's mystique and Gothic charm.

Dubose Heyward, a native son of Charleston, intricately wove the city's essence into the fabric of American literature. His novel "Porgy," published in 1925, brought the vibrant Gullah culture and the close-knit communities of Charleston to national attention. This work later inspired the groundbreaking opera "Porgy and Bess," solidifying Charleston's place in the American cultural canon.

The mid-20th century saw Charleston's literary influence grow through the works of Pat Conroy. Drawing from his experiences growing up in the Lowcountry, Conroy crafted novels that delved deep into the complexities of Southern life. His books, such as "The Prince of Tides" and "The Great Santini," paint vivid portraits of Charleston's landscapes and people, exploring themes of family, tra-

ma, and redemption against the backdrop of the city's haunting beauty.

Charleston's literary tradition continues to thrive in the modern era. The city's historic charm and rich cultural tapestry continue to inspire

contemporary authors, fostering a vibrant literary scene. Annual events like the Charleston Literary Festival celebrate this enduring legacy, bringing together writers and readers from around the world to engage with the written word in the very streets that have inspired generations of storytellers.

From Edgar Allan Poe's Gothic imaginings to Dubose Heyward's cultural explorations and Pat Conroy's soulful narratives, Charleston's literary heritage is as diverse as it is profound. These authors, among many others, have not only chronicled the city's history but have also shaped its identity, creating a literary landscape as intricate and captivating as Charleston's physical architecture.

As we conclude our exploration of Charleston's literary legacy, we're reminded that the city itself is a living narrative, continuously inspiring new chapters in the American

literary tradition. For residents and visitors alike, Charleston offers a unique opportunity to walk in the footsteps of literary giants and perhaps find inspiration for stories yet to be told.



CULTURE

CULTURE

The Rich Heritage of Charleston City Market

By Tre Manchester

In the heart of downtown Charleston, the City Market stands as a testament to the rich heritage and vibrant culture of the Lowcountry. The market is a haven for those seeking to immerse themselves in the traditional craftsmanship and flavors that define this historic city.

One of the most iconic traditions showcased at Charleston City Market is the art of sweetgrass basket weaving. Passed down through generations, these intricately woven baskets are not only exquisite works of art but also serve as a symbol of the Gullah Geechee heritage, a vibrant African American culture deeply rooted in the fabric of the Lowcountry. The delicate craftsmanship of these baskets reflects the rich history and traditions of the region, making them cherished pieces of art for locals and visitors alike.

Beyond the mesmerizing sweetgrass baskets, Charleston City Market offers an array of handmade jewelry, local artwork, and other unique crafts that capture the essence of the holy City. Whether you're in search of a one-of-a-kind souvenir or a special gift, the market's diverse offerings cater to every taste and preference. By supporting the local artisans, visitors not only acquire a piece of Charleston's culture but also play a pivotal role in preserving the traditional craftsmanship that defines the city's identity.

In addition to its artistic offerings, City Market tantalizes the senses with its authentic Lowcountry cuisine. From the beloved shrimp and grits to the rich and creamy she-crab soup, visitors can savor the distinct flavors of the South as they explore the market's spirited stalls.

Whether you're a culinary enthusiast, an art connoisseur, or simply a history buff, Charleston City Market beckons with its captivating blend of heritage, craftsmanship, and gastronomic delights. It is a destination that invites visitors to engage with the soul of Charleston and create lasting memories that celebrate the city's storied past and lively present.

As you bid farewell to the City Market, the echoes of its rich heritage and the aromas of its delectable cuisine linger, promising an unforgettable experience that captures the essence of Charleston.



Photo by Wally Gobetz

CULTURE



Photo by Andrew Cebulka

FOOD + DRINK

The Holy City's Charming Coffee Culture

By Marissa Trudo

Charleston is a city where Southern charm meets a thriving and diverse coffee culture. Join us as we delve deeper into some of the best coffee shops that locals and visitors can't stop raving about, each offering a unique blend of flavors and ambiance.

Situated in downtown Charleston, you'll find The Daily, a welcoming and thoughtful coffee shop who's mission is to provide convenience without compromising on quality or flavor. Their space is one where people can feel refreshed and nourished while enjoying some of the finest ingredients available. They offer a selection of items that are not only delicious but also essential for daily life, including healthy juices, robust coffee, breakfast toasts, fresh bread and eggs, pastries, smoothies, wine, and snacks to go.

The Daily is committed to ensuring that everyone who walks through our doors feels welcomed and valued. By upholding high standards of service, they strive to foster a strong sense of community and create a comfortable environment for all.

Crossing over to Mount Pleasant, Vintage Coffee Cafe charms made its home

in a small white cottage that they transformed into a quaint coffee shop with a rustic and beachy vibe. Here, patrons can indulge breakfast and lunch options that include avocado toast with their signature house-made tomato onion marmalade, fresh açai bowls, homemade pastries, classic local egg sandwiches, fresh salads with house-made dressing and so much more.

Vintage Coffee Cafe's expansive coffee and tea menu offers a variety of caffeine options to satisfy any palette. Their freshly roasted beans, homemade pastries, and a laid-back atmosphere truly captures the essence of Southern hospitality and has made it a beloved destination for locals and visitors alike.

Last, but certainly not least, is Second State Coffee. This locally owned coffee roastery has locations in downtown Charleston, Mount Pleasant and West Ashley. The folks behind Second State Coffee believe excellent service, exceptional training, and high quality coffee are the key pieces that create a welcoming environment for both the first time coffee drinkers and the coffee connoisseurs.

Their dedication to continued education lead them to partner with one of the industry's top coffee educators in the southeast. Through this partnership, they strive to build passion and appreciation through engaging curricula for their teams, partners, and community. Second State Coffee not only offers a diverse variety of coffee's in their cafe, but also through their digital store and wholesale services.

From downtown gems to cozy neighborhood favorites, Charleston's coffee shops offer more than just a caffeine fix—they provide a taste of the city's unique flavor palette and southern hospitality. Whether you're a coffee aficionado or simply seeking a place to unwind, these spots promise a memorable and enriching experience.

FOOD & DRINK

Maple Banana Bread

Indulge in the comforting flavors of fall with this delectable **Maple Banana Bread** recipe served with a smear of heavenly **Cinnamon Spice Butter**. This one-bowl wonder is quick to mix up and bursting with warm winter spices. It's the perfect treat for breakfast, an afternoon snack, or a satisfying after-dinner dessert.

Ingredients

For the Bread:

4 medium overly ripe bananas mashed (about 1 1/4 cup mashed)
1/4 cup melted coconut oil
1/4 cup pure maple syrup
2 eggs
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
1 1/2 cups whole wheat pastry flour (or all-purpose flour)
1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
1 cup walnuts (optional)

For the Butter:

1 stick (8 tablespoons) salted butter, at room temperature
1/4 cup maple syrup or honey
1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
1/8 teaspoon ground allspice
1/8 teaspoon ground ginger
1/8 teaspoon ground cloves
A pinch of sea salt to taste

Recipe

Preheat the oven to 350° F. Grease a 9x5 inch bread pan.

In a bowl, stir together the mashed bananas, coconut oil, maple syrup, eggs, and vanilla until combined. Add the flour, baking soda, cinnamon, and salt, mix until just combined. Fold in the walnuts, if using.

Pour the batter into the prepared pan. Bake for 50-60 minutes, or until the center is just set. Remove and let cool for 30 minutes before cutting.

To make the cinnamon butter, In a bowl, beat the butter, maple syrup, cinnamon, nutmeg, allspice, ginger, cloves, and a pinch of salt. Serve with the warm bread.



Recipe by Tieghan Gerard at Half Baked Harvest. Photo by Andrew Bui. Food Styling by Spencer Richards. Copyright © 2024.

The Campfire Mule



Introducing the **Campfire Mule**, the perfect cocktail for cozy gatherings during the cold seasons. A true embodiment of sweater weather, this delightful twist on the classic **Moscow mule** features a warm and inviting flavor profile. Whether you're enjoying a cozy evening in or hosting friends, this unconventional cocktail is a must-have for any occasion. So gather round, stay warm, and savor the seasonal magic of this irresistible drink. Cheers!

Ingredients

Ice
1 1/2 oz. smoked bourbon or whiskey
1/2 oz. fresh lemon juice
1/4 oz. pure maple syrup
4 oz. ginger beer
Marshmallows, for serving (optional)

Recipe

Fill a rocks or wine glass with ice.

Add bourbon, lemon juice, and syrup and gently stir to combine.

Top off with beer and stir again to combine.

Toast marshmallows (if using) with a blowtorch or directly over the flame of a gas stove. Thread marshmallows onto a stick and garnish the glass.

Recipe by Alejandro Valdes Lora at Delish.com. Photo by Rachel Wann. Food Styling by Brooke Caison. Copyright © 2024.



Photo by Jessica Yurinko | Charleston Gaillard Center's Spiegelent

FEATURE STORY

Emily Curtis: A Musical Journey Shaped by Soul, Collaboration, and Local Influence

FEATURE STORY

By Crystal Bryant

Emily Curtis, a Charleston native and a talented musician shared her journey with us in a recent interview. Her story is one of artistic exploration, community building, and embracing new opportunities. From her experiences as a songwriter, her impactful initiative, Sisters in Song, and her dual pursuits in music and real estate, she is a testament to the power of passion, collaboration, and resilience.

Growing up with a musician father, Emily found herself naturally drawn to music from a young age. "He was doing the singer-songwriter thing long before I came along," Emily recalls. "I grew up watching him play guitar, lead worship at churches, and constantly create music around the house. It was a natural thing for me to fall into, and the hunger for music never went away." Her father's influence laid the foundation for Emily's enduring artistic pursuits.

Not only did Emily inherit a love for music, but she also developed a talent for songwriting. "I do write my own songs," she confirms. "There's a handful of ways to go about it. Sometimes you're writing purely off of inspiration, so I pull out my guitar and start playing chords or bring out my journal and start writing based on whatever that idea is."

In addition to her solo songwriting process, Emily also embraces the collaborative Nashville way. "You get into a room with 3 or 4 people, some-

one will have a track ready, and then you start spitting out topics and concepts and riffing on it," she describes.

When it comes to the creation of music, Emily believes that the melody is king. "The melody is the first thing people tend to latch onto that makes people move," she explains. "For the most part, you never want to compromise the melody just to make the lyric fit. You want the right lyric to fit the melody hook."

Emily's musical influences range from the soulfulness of Motown to Christian pop artists and iconic vocalists like Whitney Houston and Mariah Carey. These influences have undoubtedly shaped her style as a vocalist and songwriter, setting her on a path to create music that resonates with her audience and showcases her own artistry.

After reflecting on her early days performing cover gigs with a friend,



Photo by Brandon Allan | Music Farm

Emily opened up about the inspiration behind her initiative, Sisters in Song. She shared, "It became the solution to feeling isolated. Finding other people that are going through that same struggle can be the difference between making it or not, being able to lean on each other and just be reminded that you're not crazy."

About the impact of Sisters in Song, Emily expressed, "Women from all parts of the local music industry could come together, whether it was booking agents, photographers, music lawyers, singers, or artists... It's just about being able to talk instead of performing for each other." It's important to create a space that makes everyone feel like they have a place there, no matter where they are on their journey. Emily hopes to see the collective grow into a powerful force that empowers female musicians and contributes to a more inclusive and diverse music community.

Emily also shared one of the most memorable performances of her career. "At the end of 2022, I was invited to be a part of the Spiegelent show at the Gilliard Center. I got to perform five of my songs to a sold-out crowd." she reminisced. Performing alongside Grammy-winning musicians in such a prestigious venue was a defining moment and a significant milestone in her musical journey.

The next year holds promise for Emily as she plans to release new music while venturing into the world of real estate. "I have a couple songs that are ready, and hopefully I would like to have those out in the next year and just continue to build on what's already been going on," she shared. She's

excited about her new venture in real estate and the opportunity it provides for her to become a patron of her art. "I love Charleston and I love the people, and I like preserving the culture. So to be a part of it in that way, from the real estate side, has been really interesting," Emily explained.

Discussing the parallels between her music career and real estate, Curtis highlighted the similarities in dealing with uncertainties and the business aspects of both fields. "I'm used to strange hours and, kind of, a question mark in front of me. Knowing you're doing the right things, but not always knowing when it's going to come to fruition," she noted. Her involvement in real estate has sharpened her ability to communicate with people, which she believes will positively impact her songwriting.

Emily candidly shared her experience with stage fright and how she overcame it by embracing her authenticity. "I started to get more comfortable with it by recognizing that being honest about how I was feeling on stage connected with people more than me trying to be this perfect, polished icon," she said. "I'm representing you up here. You see all my insecurities. I'm being very honest with you, being a little bit quirky. That persona has connected better than anything else that I've seen or tried."

Emily's advice to aspiring local musicians focused on the importance of surrounding oneself with supportive communities. "One of the worst things you can do is be an energy vampire to someone who's doing the thing that you want to do. You want to be able to go and support them and genuinely be interested in what they're doing rather than what they can



Photo by Brandon Allan | Riverfront Revival 2023

do for you," she advised. Drawing from her own experience of starting out by attending open mic nights and observing others, continuing to learn and grow within your craft is invaluable.

As Emily looks ahead to the future, she hopes to create a consistent stream of new music with an engaged audience all while maintaining a healthy personal life. "You don't have to be a super star to be successful in music, and that's the big misconception."

As our conversation with Emily came to a close, she left us with some inspiring parting words. "Don't put yourself in a box," she advises. "A lot of times, things can cross over into other spaces. Not limiting yourself to one thing. Be really good at the things that you're doing, but don't limit yourself just based on what you think it's supposed to look like."

It's evident that Emily Curtis is not just a talented musician, but also a trailblazer who is redefining what it means to thrive in the music industry. Her experiences and insights offer valuable lessons for aspiring musicians and professionals alike, emphasizing the significance of genuine connections and unwavering dedication in the pursuit of creative and professional fulfillment. As she continues to make her mark on the local music scene, her passion for creating a supportive and inclusive environment for fellow musicians shines through, inspiring others to follow in her footsteps.

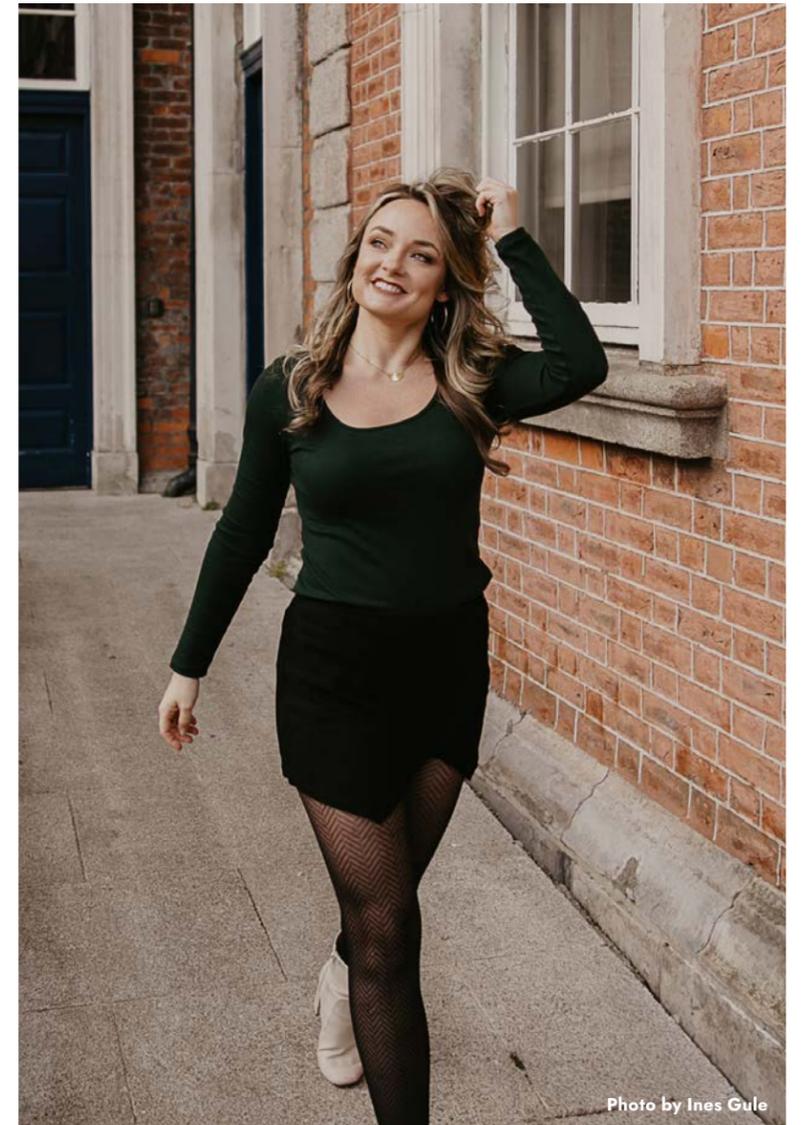


Photo by Ines Gule



WELLNESS

Immune-Boosting Foods To Keep You Healthy During Cold Season

By Crystal Bryant

As the temperature drops and the days grow shorter, it's essential to give our immune systems the support they need to stay strong and healthy during the fall and winter months. One way to do this is by incorporating immune-boosting foods into our diets. By focusing on nutrient-dense foods rich in vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants, we can help fortify our bodies against the seasonal challenges that come our way.

Citrus fruits, such as oranges, grapefruits, and clementines, are well-known for their high vitamin C content. This vitamin is a powerful antioxidant that supports the immune system by helping the body fight off infections. Additionally, citrus fruits are abundant during the colder months, making them a convenient and delicious choice for boosting immunity.

Leafy greens, like spinach, kale, and Swiss chard, are packed with vitamins A, C, and E, as well as antioxidants and fiber. These nutrients play a

crucial role in supporting the immune system by reducing inflammation and enhancing immune cell function. Whether added to salads, smoothies, or cooked dishes, leafy greens are versatile and easy to incorporate into daily meals.

Ginger and turmeric, often used in fall and winter recipes, have potent anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties that can help support immune function. Whether brewed into a soothing tea or added to warming soups and stews, these flavorful spices not only enhance the taste of dishes but also provide valuable immune support.

Probiotic-rich foods, such as yogurt, kefir, and fermented vegetables, contribute to a healthy gut microbiome, which is closely linked to immune function. The beneficial bacteria in these foods help maintain a balanced and resilient immune system, making them valuable additions to a winter wellness diet.

Incorporating immune-boosting foods like these into our fall and winter meal plans can help us stay healthy and resilient during the colder months. By focusing on wholesome, nutrient-dense ingredients, we can support our immune systems and promote overall well-being as we embrace the joys of the season.



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Featured Listing

**2718 WAKER STREET
Charleston
5 Bed, 5.5 Bath
4,578 Sq Ft**

Immerse yourself in breathtaking marsh views and unparalleled Lowcountry living in this stunning 5-bedroom, 4.5-bathroom modern coastal oasis. This meticulously designed home seamlessly blends contemporary style with classic Lowcountry charm, offering the perfect environment for entertaining and unwinding.

Bathed in natural light, the expansive open floor plan maximizes the home's premier location. Picture yourself relaxing in the living room, mesmerized by the ever-changing vistas of the marsh stretching out before you. Walls of windows blur the lines between indoors and outdoors, creating a truly immersive experience.

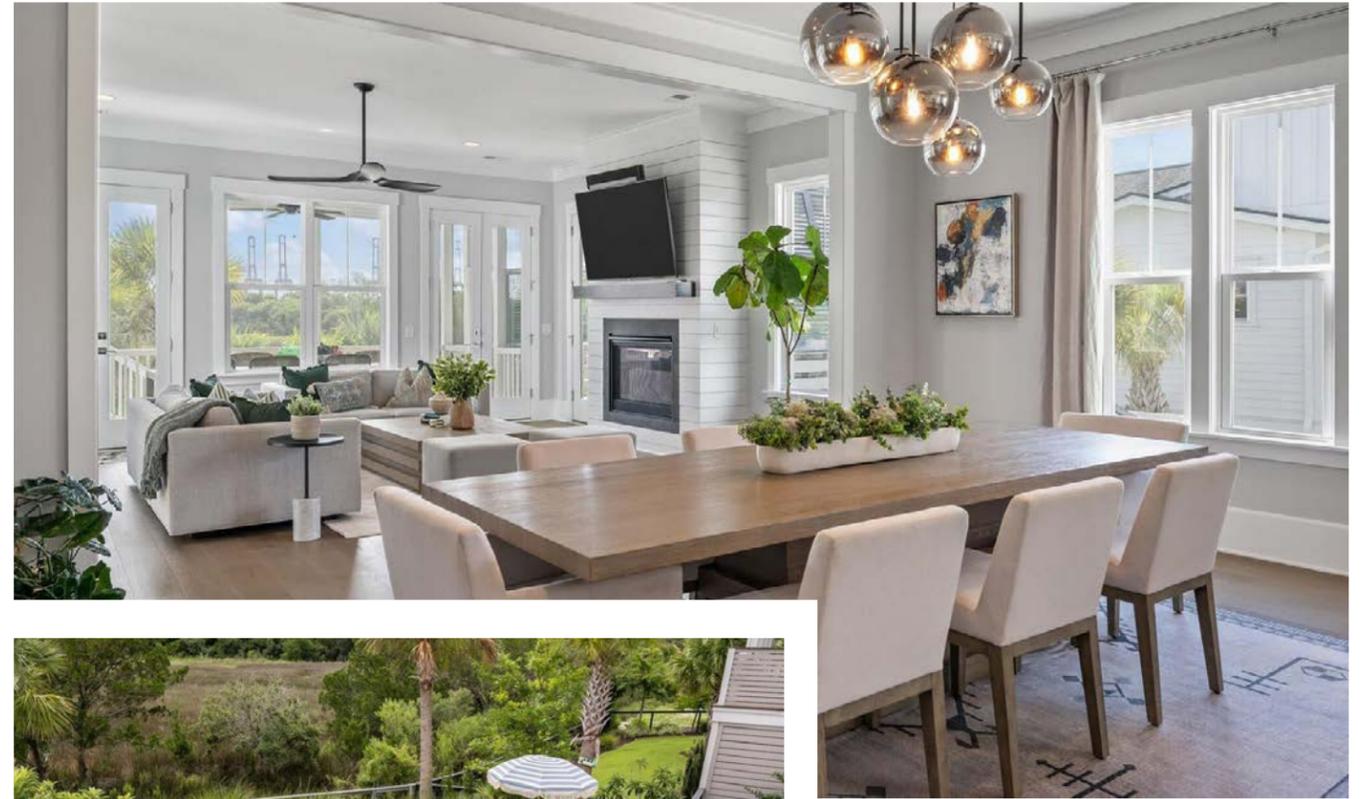
The modern yet coastal-inspired interior provides a sophisticated canvas for your personal style. Imagine whipping up culinary masterpieces in the gourmet kitchen, complete with top-of-the-line appliances, and then gathering loved ones around the spacious dining area for unforgettable evenings.

Step outside and embrace a true Lowcountry lifestyle. Take a refreshing



dip in the plunge pool on a scorching summer day, or gather around the crackling fire pit under a star-filled sky on cool autumn nights. This outdoor haven offers the perfect setting for creating lasting memories with family and friends.

This exceptional property embodies the essence of Daniel Island living. With its sought-after wide-open layout, breathtaking marsh views, and luxurious amenities, it's the ideal place to call home. Neighborhood, truly checks all the boxes, and then some.



**CALL (843) 478-6199 OR EMAIL
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FOR MORE INFORMATION**



The Ames

Nexton's Newest Upscale Community

By Crystal Bryant

Woodfield Development, a Charleston-based developer, has recently completed its latest project at the Nexton mixed-use community in Summerville. The new upscale multifamily community, The Ames, features 304 new units on approximately 10.5 acres at 3800 Zephyr Road. The apartments offer a variety of layouts, including one, two, and three-bedroom options.

Mike Schwarz, partner at Woodfield Development, expressed excitement about introducing The Ames to Summerville's rapidly growing Nexton community. "The property's name, The Ames, means 'friend,' and our team has worked diligently to deliver a one-of-a-kind lifestyle and amenity-driven project with the primary objective of connecting residents and the Nexton community in a warm, inviting, and enriching environment," Schwarz said.

The Ames features community spaces where neighbors, families, and pets can live, work, and play together. Amenities include a resort-style pool with full lap lanes, a poolside cabana with grilling stations, a tech-infused fitness center, an outdoor amphitheater, two pickleball courts, a dog park with a dog wash station, coworking spaces, and locally roasted coffee and cold brew on tap.

Conveniently located in downtown Nexton, living in this community would mean you're only steps away from local shops, restaurants, and neighborhood events. Grocery stores, parks, and offices fill the surrounding areas, along with an elementary school and middle school set to open in 2026. Woodfield Development is excited about The Ames' future role in the continued success and growth of Downtown Nexton.

The Summerville development began leasing in February and has already achieved over 50% occupancy. Woodfield Development, one of the top 20 developers of Class A multifamily communities, has completed 86 total developments in various stages, with The Ames marking its 17th development in South Carolina. Over the past 15 years, Woodfield Development has delivered over 4,300 units, totaling more than \$1 billion in the state.

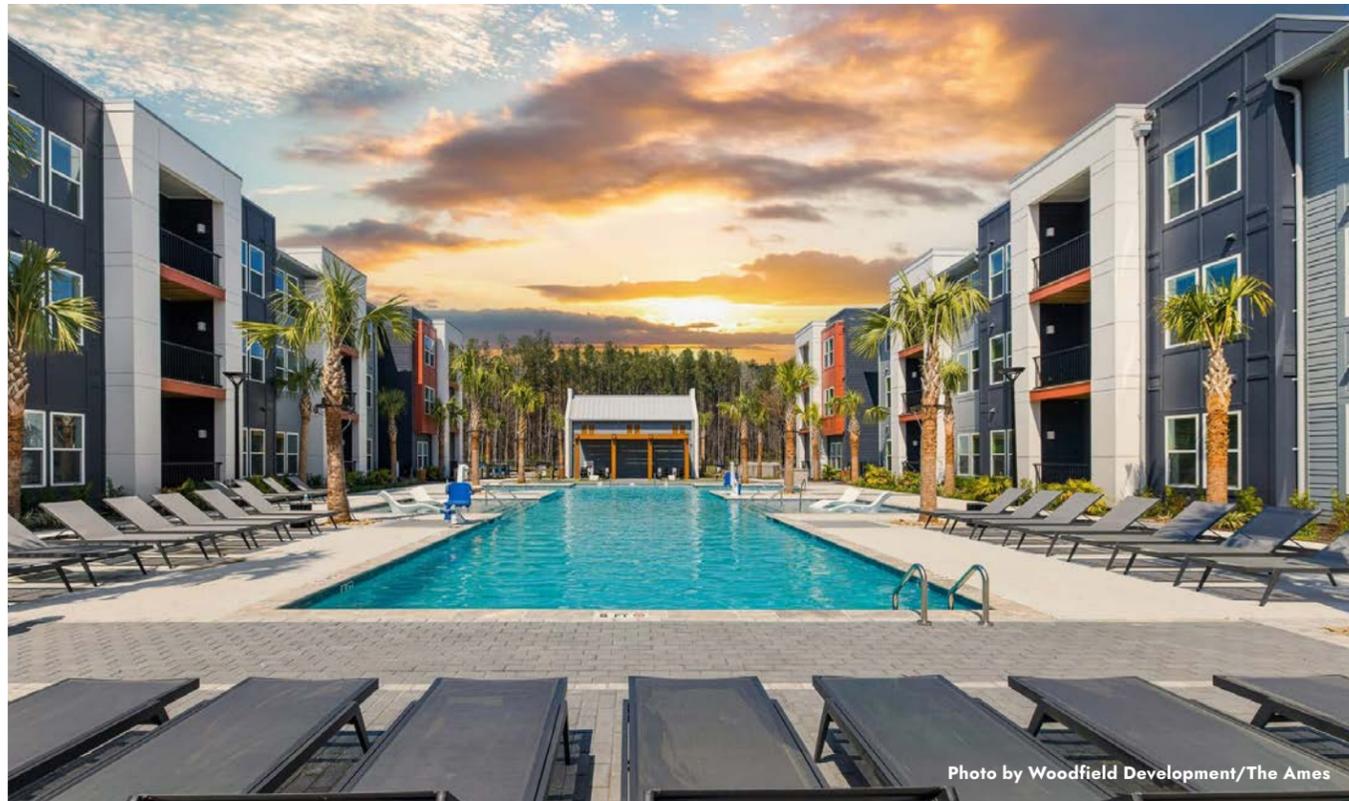


Photo by Woodfield Development/The Ames



Photo by Robbie Caponetto

Southern Living's 2024 Idea House in Kiawah River

By Crystal Bryant

Southern Living just unveiled their 2024 Idea House in Kiawah River, a remarkable coastal community just 20 miles from Charleston. The Idea House is a stunning 4,400 square-foot farmhouse that showcases the beauty of the Lowcountry, featuring breathtaking outdoor living spaces with spectacular water views.

This year's Idea House was designed with a deep respect for the natural surroundings, drawing inspiration from the simple elegance of traditional farmhouses in the region. Nestled between two majestic live oaks on the shores of Abbapoola Creek, the main house and adjacent carriage house take full advantage of the picturesque location, offering stunning views from every corner.

The open floor plan seamlessly connects indoor and outdoor spaces, boasting a relaxed and effortless atmosphere. Every aspect of the design reflects the spirit of the Lowcountry, showcasing handcrafted goods from local farm vendors, a carefully curated collection of art, and the incorporation of works by local creatives like Charleston-based Andrea Cayetano-Jefferson of Gullah Sweetgrass Baskets and esteemed textile designer Rebecca Atwood. Together, these elements pay homage to southern traditions and honor the area's agricultural heritage.

Chris Drury, the broker-in-charge at Kiawah River, expressed his honor and excitement at being chosen as the location for this esteemed tradition, saying, "From its expansive waterfront views to its embrace of outdoor living, this year's Idea House will exemplify all that Kiawah River is known for, and we are looking forward to welcoming residents and guests into the home and our community."

The Southern Living Idea House program has long been a beacon of inspiration, offering decor and design ideas, as well as product recommendations. This year's home also features new shoppable experiences, allowing visitors and readers to seamlessly incorporate pieces of Lowcountry charm into their own homes.

The collaboration for this project includes an impressive lineup of partners, such as builder Dillard-Jones, architect MHK Architecture, interior designer Allison Elebash Interiors, and landscape architect Design-Works.

The 2024 Idea House is open for public tours now until December 2024. This year promises to be an unmissable opportunity for all who seek to immerse themselves in the distinctive allure of the Lowcountry and gain insight into the latest trends in decor and design.

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Photo by Anna Newsom



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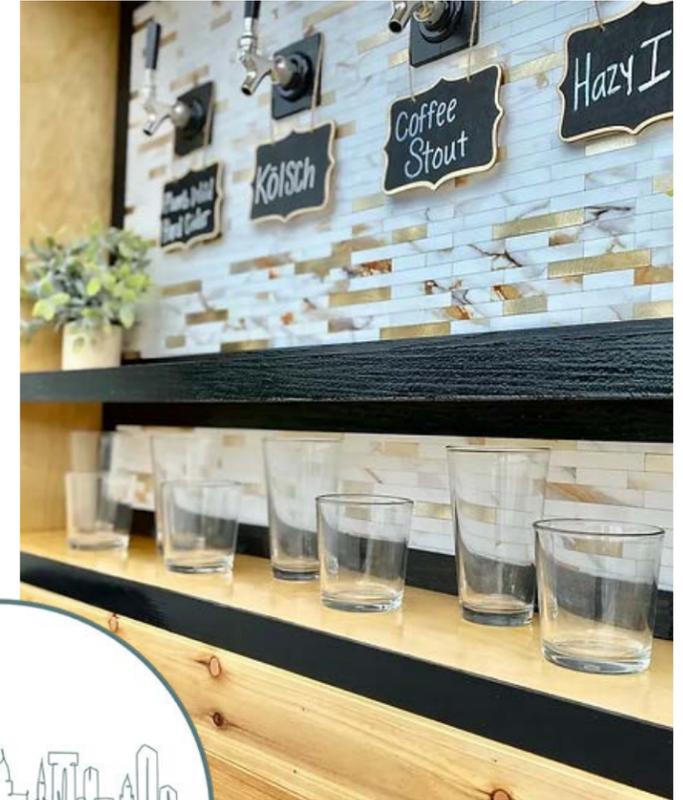
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