

# Blue Giraffe celebrates two years with 2-day event

By TRACY LOUTHAIN  
 Advertorial Special to The Sun

Two is the magic number for mother-daughter team Debbie Taylor and Christi Sheffield, who are celebrating two glorious years as co-owners of The Blue Giraffe, a boutique featuring art and gifts with heart in WaterColor. They credit their success to the many talented artists they represent and the overwhelming support of South Walton's art-loving community.

"Owning The Blue Giraffe has been a dream come true for us," said co-owner Taylor. "I always wanted to own a bookstore, and Christi's love of art and specialty gifts has allowed us to create a boutique where we love to spend our time and hope our artists and customers do, too."

In honor of this milestone, The Blue Giraffe is hosting a "Happy 2 Be Here" second anniversary celebration from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Nov. 1-2. The two-day event will feature artists, live performances, interactive activities and tasty treats.

The celebration kicks off at 10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 1, with local musician Kyle Lamonica performing outside on the green. The performance will be complemented by celebratory activities, including painting demonstrations and book signings. The Blue Giraffe also will feature local causes, including the South Walton Turtle Watch and pet adoptions with Alaqua Animal Refuge.

On Friday, festivities continue throughout the day with prizes and giveaways to thank the



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A peek inside the Blue Giraffe gallery.

community and customers for their support. The grand finale will be a live performance by singer/songwriter and "The Voice" contestant Geoff McBride.

"We are so thankful for our gifted artists and all our loyal customers who give meaning and purpose to everything we do," Taylor said. "We'll be celebrating with hearts full of gratitude, and we hope everyone will come out and join us!"

The gallery has earned a reputation for representing artists whose work is coastal, colorful and cheerful. In fact, The Blue Giraffe was voted among the top five "Hot Spots for Art

Lovers" on 30A.com. By carrying a wide selection of artwork, hand-crafted jewelry, accessories and autographed books, the Blue Giraffe also has become a top stop on 30A for finding that one-of-a-kind, meaningful gift.

The Blue Giraffe represents artisans, ranging from "Destin Festival of the Arts" poster winner Mary Hong to local talent Aaron Sutton to the Moore Family's Folk Art to Tricia Robinson of the famed "Dear Bike" series. Local designer Constance Snellgrove proudly displays her "Sassy Jewels," and beautiful bowls by local potter, Juliene Watson, show the mix of talent and

mediums. At the back of the store, "A Sea of Books" features diverse titles, ranging from New York Times best sellers and beach reads to spiritual books and cookbooks to award-winning children's books and books by local authors.

Conveniently located by Chan's Wine World in WaterColor Town Center, the celebration is an appropriate start to South Walton's festival-filled weekend, which includes Taste of the Beach and WaterColor's MountainFilm on Tour. For more information and event details, visit [www.bluegiraffe30a.com](http://www.bluegiraffe30a.com) or call 850-231-5112.



SCOTT HOLSTEIN PHOTOGRAPHY | Special to The Sun  
 Co-owners Debbie Taylor and Christi Sheffield.



## HEY 30A!

# HAPPY 2 BE HERE

2ND ANNIVERSARY

## CELEBRATION

# The Blue Giraffe

**850-231-5112**

## WATERCOLOR TOWN CENTER

## NOV. 1ST & 2ND • 2012

### 10AM – 5PM

**SURPRISE GIVEAWAYS**  
 Register to win amazing prizes

**LIVE MUSIC**  
 Kyle Lamonica – Thursday 11am-2pm  
 Geoff McBride – Friday 3:30pm-5pm

**REFRESHMENTS**  
 Morning pastries & hot cider  
 Afternoon snacks & wine

**MEET OUR ARTISTS & AUTHORS**  
 Live painting demonstrations  
 Create your own piece of art with our artists  
 Books signed & personalized by local authors  
 Unique jewelry, accessories & decor

**EDUCATION & FUNDRAISING**  
 South Walton Turtle Watch – Thursday 10am-2pm  
 Alaqua Animal Refuge – Thursday 2pm-5pm





































