



TRADERS GIFTS AND MORE, YANKEETOWN

# *It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas!*

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As the holiday season approaches, it may be tempting to hop online for your Christmas shopping. You can also consider heading out, greeting your neighbors, enjoying the local decorations, and making a fun day of your holiday shopping.

Buying online may seem easy, but it lacks the personal touch and the opportunity to find something truly unique. Buying from local stores supports local citizens and families, and keeps your money in the community. Boosting the local economy assists the entire region, especially when the coastal area is still recovering from the recent hurricane season. Our resilient citizens are bouncing back quickly but could use the boost brought in by Black Friday and holiday shopping.

Head over to 2nd Street in Cedar Key and visit the Mercantile offering gourmet food, jewelry, holiday and home decor, and For Shore offering unique home furnishings with a coastal flair. While you are shopping, stop and enjoy the Clam Sculptures on 2nd Street, a fun, educational public art event featuring clam sculptures painted by local artists. More shops are opening daily not only in Cedar Key but Yankeetown and Inglis as well.

Buying locally does more than just keeping your money near home. Shops create jobs for residents. Buying local means using less packaging with negative environmental impacts, or worrying about shipping delays. Consumers

will receive better customer service and the rewards of interacting and showing support for your own local area.

The holidays are also a great time to find local events that feature unique and unusual vendors. Spend time with your family, make some new memories, and pick up gifts with a Levy County flair.

Beyond physical gifts, don't forget the option of giving experiences like restaurant gift cards or outings like boat tours, equestrian rides or theater. These can be the perfect item for those hard to shop for folks on your list.

Holiday shopping is a great opportunity to help businesses continue to open and prosper within the neighborhood.

## THE MERCANTILE, CEDAR KEY

## FOR SHORE, CEDAR KEY



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Photos courtesy Levy County Visitors Bureau

