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Country music singer Steven Cade to donate guitars to Palmetto House in Daytona Beach

Laurie Hahn
The Daytona Beach News-Journal

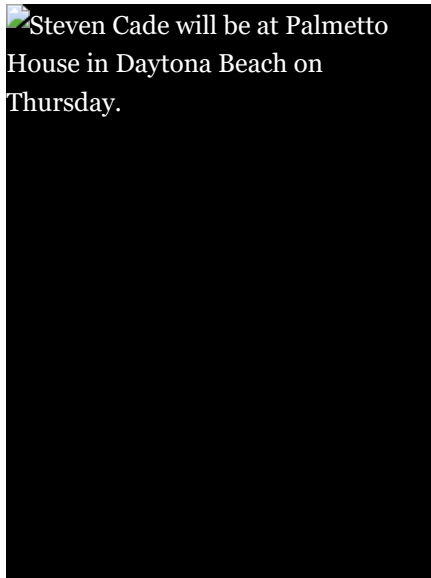
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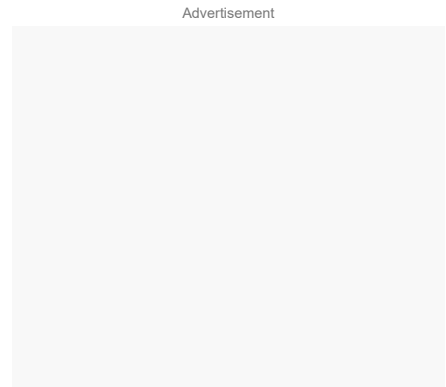
It's a recognizable three-story house on Palmetto Avenue in Daytona Beach, and Thursday [country music singer and songwriter Steven Cade](#) will stop by and donate guitars to the residents of [Palmetto House](#).

"He'll sing a couple songs, talk to some people," said House Manager Lindsay Medders. "He's doing this for us, not for him. ... It's his way of giving back, bringing publicity here so people know about us and can contribute."

Palmetto House is a not-for-profit transitional housing facility with 48 rooms and 77 beds in a building that's over 100 years old. Because the facility relies completely on donations, Medders said, they're thrilled that Cade will make an appearance.



Steven Cade will be at Palmetto House in Daytona Beach on Thursday. *Photo Provided*



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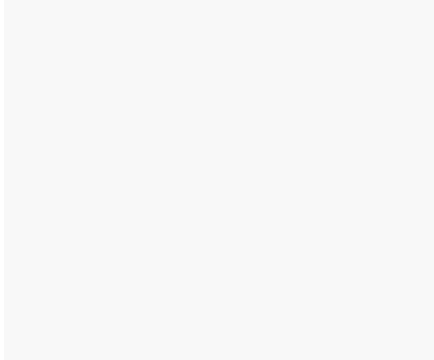




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“It’s awesome that he reached out to us because we’ve never done anything like this before,” Medders said. “I guess he has experienced homelessness himself within his family.”

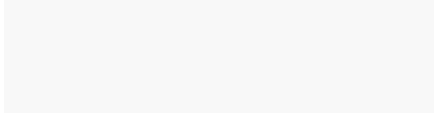
Because some of the residents of Palmetto House would rather not make their presence known, Medders said Cade will stay mostly on the front porch. “I think it would be best if he’s out there so people who want to take part can be there and those who don’t can stay inside.”

Cade is scheduled to arrive at Palmetto house at 1 p.m.

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Transitional housing with a purpose

Palmetto House, which has been in service for 27 years, houses mainly recovering addicts, people recently released from prison, people with mental health problems, and sometimes women fleeing domestic abuse.

“For the most part, we have an awesome crowd here,” Medders said. “They’re sober, they go to meetings.”

She is strict about the sobriety requirement, and said sometimes a client will decide they can’t comply with the requirements and will move out. If they later want to return, they must be drug-free and pass a drug test before Medders will let them back in.

But Medders, who herself was homeless before coming to Palmetto House, works hard to get the clients back on their feet. That effort is helped by the parent organization, Mid-Florida Housing Partnership Inc., under whose umbrella Palmetto House falls. MFHP offers clients first-time homebuyer education classes, credit counseling, budget counseling and other advisory education. And clients also are eligible for fully paid tuition to Daytona State College while living at Palmetto House, Medders said.

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“The guys from prison especially hit the ground running,” she said. “They’re determined not to go back.”

Everything at the house is donated, even the meals. “One of our local churches brings a hot meal every night,” she said, and other area residents have donated

blankets, sheets, clothing and other items needed by both the house management and the clients.

Because she's the only house manager, Palmetto House does not offer medical services, Medders said, referring clients elsewhere if they need medical care. "Once they get sober, they start caring about their bodies, making doctor appointments," she said. She requires clients to be 100% narcotic-free to move in and they must be responsible for their own money. "I don't let them get complacent."

Medders credits Palmetto House with her own progression from homelessness and addiction to being the house manager.

"This place is a passion for me. I was a client here four years ago," she said. "I came here literally helpless and hopeless. This place literally saved my life."

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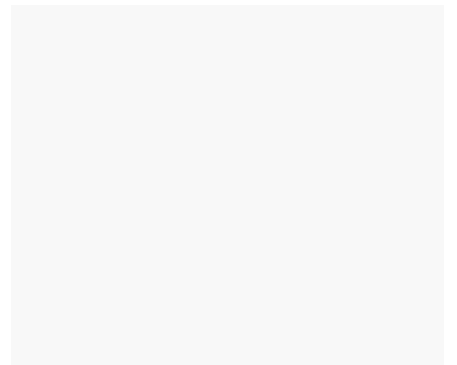
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For information about Palmetto House or how you can help, call 386-253-4895 or visit mfhp.org.



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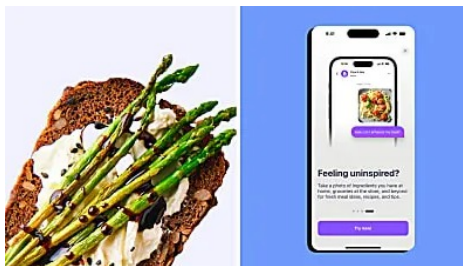
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